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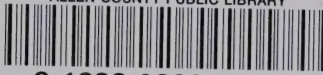
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HISTORY OF  
Travis County  
and  
Austin  
1839-1899



By  
MARY STARR BARKLEY

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## Introduction 1272760

Travis County holds a unique geographical position in Texas as it provides the meeting point for the Coastal Plain of Texas, the picturesque Edwards Plateau, and the rich soil of the Blackland Prairie. Winding through this region, acting as a sort of divider between the areas, is the Colorado River of Texas. This political entity is important from an economic point of view for it stands today as one of the most progressive of Texas' 254 counties. Educationally, the county is significant as it houses the University of Texas as well as several church affiliated institutions of higher learning. The primary political importance of the county stems from the fact that Austin, the county seat, houses the state capitol and its surrounding complex of state buildings. Austin has served in this capacity continuously since 1845. Here legislators have met and continue to meet to chart the future of the entire state. Cultural and social activities in Austin and Travis County have revolved around all of these facets of American life.

For an area of such importance it seems strange that no one has come forth with a published history of the county. Many scholarly bits and fragments have been written on the various aspects of county development, but no writer up to now has set forth the history of its important formative years. Mary Starr Barkley, born and reared in Travis County, trained in its educational institutions, and well versed in the society of the county, has taken an important step in presenting this history of Austin and Travis County.

The daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James P. Starr, Mary Starr is married to Fred C. Barkley, a banker of Austin. She is a fourth generation Austinite, having been trained in English and history at St. Mary's Academy and the University of Texas. After many years of writing and publishing magazine articles dealing largely with historical topics, Mrs. Barkley became interested in producing this history. She undertook the study from the standpoint of an understanding citizen. Manuscript and printed sources in archives, libraries, and county offices were searched; newspapers were perused; and perhaps most important of all, old timers were interviewed and their stories were recorded. Much of the research was performed on the scene of the event, and one who reads the manuscript is struck by the insight and understanding the writer has for her subject. The

fruit of her pen certainly bears out Mrs. Barkley's ability and desire in writing this history.

Particularly, it has seemed to the "introducers," both separately and collectively, that it should be emphasized how much Mrs. Barkley's writing has been complemented by "on the site" inspection. By keeping her feet on the ground, Mrs. Barkley has been able to write a county history of a capital area. The genesis of every type of history is manufactured in a state capital area: e.g., there are relations between the state and the federal government, relations between the state and its various political subdivisions, there are matters to be settled between divisions of the state, and the like. There is more governmental complexity in a state capital political situation than in any other in America. Thus, a historical account centered around a state capital area is always highly complex.

Out of such complexity, Mrs. Barkley has written an understandable history of the capital area of Texas. It is with pride that we recommend it to those interested in Texas and its varied past.

H. Bailey Carroll  
DeWitt C. Reddick  
James M. Day



## *Preface*

It was over six score years ago that our fathers and their fathers created on this continent a new nation, called Texas, and this story is the chronicle of Travis County and the county seat, Austin, the capital city of Texas since 1839. This is the story of Travis County and Austin from their first founding in 1839, and of their progress for sixty years, of the prideful past of the pioneers on to 1899 at the curve of the century.

This history is presented and timed to celebrate, in the coming year of 1964, the 125th anniversary of the starting of our county and city. It is an invitation to you to stop and look back, from today into yesterday, from the 20th century of jets and missiles and neons into the 19th century and the first half of our county and city's history, at the path of those pioneers from their crude cabins to their handsome homes, as they created this county and city.

In gathering this material, which gives us a glimpse into their greatness, many people have been interviewed, and the list is long. Many records have been searched, and the register of those is equally lengthy.

This preface then is a salute to those who, in interviews and records, have contributed charm to this story of Travis County and Austin;—to those who have encouraged the writing of this history. It would take a volume to list all to whom I am grateful, and may they know of my thanks. Mention must be made of several; Dr. DeWitt C. Reddick, Dr. H. Bailey Carroll, Mr. James M. Day, Mr. Stuart Harris, Mrs. Helen Swanson, Dr. Llerena Friend, and Mrs. Jane Rowley. Illustration of the interior of the Austin National Bank courtesy Mrs. Ralph Hanna.

Mary Starr Barkley  
Austin, Texas  
Dec. 1, 1963

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## CHAPTER I

# *The Path of the Pioneers*

For Travis County and Austin, the county seat and capital city of Texas, a century and a quarter of history is now part of the past, and the story of that era is a monument to those pioneers who settled the area and left their landmarks, old homes, folklore, and history.

The story of the pioneer settlements in Travis County portrays the early days of the Republic and the State of Texas, and it would not be complete without first taking the reader on a tour of this area as it must have appeared to its founders when they first came to Waterloo, later named Austin.

Why not spend a Sunday afternoon and pursue the same path those settlers followed as they wended their way up the old road from Bastrop, past the places of those pioneers that are history now—Wilbarger, Hornsby, Webber, Wells, Barton, Nash, Duty, Burleson, Rogers, Tannehill, and Manor. The roll call sounds like the roster of the Old Three Hundred.

As the road leaves Bastrop toward Austin on Highway 71, it is the path Stephen F. Austin and Mirabeau B. Lamar traveled, the old trace up Waterloo way. After leaving Bastrop and the bridge over the river, turn right on Farm Road 969, about eight miles from Bastrop, and follow that road to another crossing on the river. In 1959, the old "hump-back" bridge that was a landmark for generations was torn down, so travel passes over a new bridge. Above this crossing up the river was the old Nash's ferry where our forefathers ferried across on their journeys up to Travis County.

After crossing the river, there is a monument on the right of the road which reads:

WILBARGER'S BEND

founded in 1821 by

JOSIAH PUGH WILBARGER

Beginning of Wilbarger's trace, blazed by his son,

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James Harvey Wilbarger, in 1860, with slaves and ox-wagons, carrying commerce to Corpus Christi and Matamoras, Mexico, erected by descendants in 1920.

Although this trace southward was started for commerce during the Civil War, this is the site of Wilbarger's Bend founded in 1821 by one of the first settlers coming Travis County way. Lamar and others who followed stopped at this place, Wilbarger's Bend, where Josiah Pugh Wilbarger, the bravest of those early settlers, became one of the first to settle above Bastrop on the western frontier.

Wilbarger's holdings were located on a creek named for him, in a bend of the Colorado River, and he was there in 1830 when Miguel Arciniega became Commissioner of the Little Colony. Stephen F. Austin and his surveying crew came up to lay out the Little Colony in March, 1830.<sup>1</sup>

This Colony, of which Waterloo and the Travis County area were to be a part, had been authorized in 1827.<sup>2</sup> The surveying crew was composed of Reuben Hornsby, Josiah Wilbarger, John F. Webber, Martin Wells, William Barton, and Jesse Tannehill.<sup>3</sup>

Matthias Wilbarger soon followed his brother; next, Martin Wells settled above Wilbarger's Bend at Wells Prairie in 1831, and lived there until his death in 1836; John F. Webber in 1832 settled about three miles above Wells Prairie.

Concerning those first settlers, General Edward Burleson wrote in a letter to Lamar on February 4, 1844, "Sir, agreeable to Request I hastn to Give you a Scetch of names of the settlers I found upon the Colorado in 1830 above the old Labahie Road," and he listed William Barton who was living twenty-five miles above said road, Edward Jenkins, and Elisha Barton, brother to William Barton.<sup>4</sup>

As the road passes Wilbarger's Bend traveling toward Austin, Utley is on the left of the road. Here it was that James Harvey Wilbarger, son of Josiah, had his trading post in the early 1850's, and had a wagon route from this bend to the coast. It was his wife who said:

I can here now those slaves goading those oxen  
wagons up the steep banks of the Colorado River

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[at] Nash's Crossing. As they lashed those oxen . . . the silence was so deep that one's footsteps were as loud as a city; so still of Sunday mornings that the Methodist church bell could be heard in the distance eight miles away.<sup>5</sup>

On the right is the entrance to the old Barton plantation with its old houses still standing; this was originally Wood's settlement.

As the road stretches on, the settlement of the Manors is on the left. The store and home were started by those early settlers, Joseph Manor and Frank Nash, of the old ferry crossing back at the bridge. James Manor, whose name and family the town of Manor knew later, was with them when the store was started here at Half-Acre.

Across the road is the gin, and back of it, high on the hill, is the interesting old cemetery and the graves of many of those first settlers.

Also in this area, east of Coleman Branch or Creek, was Martin Wells' three log cabins, all cuddled closely then, but gone by the turn of the century. Wells came from Tennessee and settled at this place, called Wells Prairie, where he died about 1836.

Next will appear the sign for Deatsville, the site of Peter Carr's place; he was Travis County's first mailman.

Continuing on Farm Road 969, one reaches Webberville, with its Ebenezer Baptist Church on the left. On the church grounds, in its setting of cactus and prickly pear, with an iron fence around it, is the tall tombstone of Milton Duty, son of Joseph William Duty, born on February 2, 1836.

Webberville was originally called Webber's Prairie; it was a sizeable frontier village, with the log cabins of John Webber; Noah Smithwick; Washington Anderson and his father, Dr. Thomas Anderson; the Hamiltons, Alexander, James, John, William; James Dodd; James and Joseph Manor; and the Dutys, George, Joseph, Matthew, Richard, and William.

Many of these first settlers died early; Joseph Duty who died in about 1855 is buried on the hill in the old Manor cemetery; Matthew Duty was killed by Indians; and George Duty also was dead before 1837 ended.

Webber's Prairie later became known as Hell's Half Acre,<sup>6</sup>



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and Webber lived there until about 1851, when he sold the land to Colonel Banks and left, following an unfortunate marriage. It was Banks who planned the town of Webberville. After the Civil War, the property became Aaron Burleson's, who married Jane Tannehill, daughter of Jesse C. Tannehill. Aaron Burleson settled at the mouth of Walnut Creek in 1838 and lived in the Austin area until he died at his home near Govalle on January 13, 1855. Tannehill settled in 1839 on land adjoining Austin on the east, called Montopolis, near old Fort Prairie, and logs from old Fort Coleman were used to build his log cabin, where he died on March 18, 1863.<sup>7</sup>

Dr. Thomas Anderson served his neighbors in Travis County as their first doctor until Dr. J. S. Robertson came and rode the riverfront on horseback, serving the settlers. Noah Smithwick, who lived at Webberville then, was at old Fort Coleman too, and left the area at the time of the Civil War. It was he who wrote much of the material about early Travis County. He was born on January 1, 1808, in North Carolina, came to Texas in 1827, and was married to the widow Duty.

On the drive up the pioneers' pathway, one will notice that their settlements were on the Colorado River, often at bends of the river, such as Wilbarger Bend, Hornsby Bend, and Hunter Bend, next on this road. A road to the left leads to Hunter Bend, where William Dunlap Hunter settled after living at Hornsby Bend for a short time after coming to the area from South Carolina in 1859. When he bought the Burleson tract, it became known as Hunter's Bend. It was he who worked to get a post office there, called Dunlap post office, and he carried the mail to the settlers until the establishment of the post office. Mrs. C. W. Hackett, Hunter's youngest child, still preserves the two-story Hunter home, with porches on three sides, and the family cemetery in the yard. J. T. Glass, who has lived at Hunter's Bend for half a century, is the son of a Texas Ranger who lived in Bastrop in its early days. Back on the main road is the two-story rambling, red-roofed Gilbert home, and then Hornsby Bend.

It was in July, 1832, that Reuben Hornsby ventured on up above Wilbarger's, where he had been staying, and which was in Bastrop County, and settled at the bend of the river named for him, about ten miles below Austin, where he started the

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first settlement in Travis County, with his wife, Sallie, and his sons, Daniel, Joseph, Malcolm, Reuben, Thomas, and William. His brothers, Smith and Thomas Hornsby, joined him later, and Hornsby Bend became a stopping place for settlers in the county; there, too, was started the first school in Travis County. A marker can be seen on the right of the road before the intersection of the road to Bergstrom Field on the left.

The old cabins and fort were destroyed early in the twentieth century, but the cemetery remained, to the left of the road, near the church, and the first two graves were those of Howell Haggett and John Williams, soldiers sent to Hornsby's during the revolution in 1836, to help guard the fort. These two men were scalped by the Indians while hoeing in their corn fields, and were buried on the spot, starting the cemetery there for the settlers. Reuben Hornsby was buried there when he died in 1879, and a state marker was erected in 1936. In Texas' old Land Office building, which is the museum of the Republic of Texas, are relics of Hornsby's life and times at Hornsby Bend. Among them are his favorite chair and a table which the Mormons built when they were camped nearby at Fort Coleman.<sup>8</sup> The Reuben Hornsby Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, chartered in 1919, has been composed of lineal descendants of this man.

As the road leaves Hornsby's Bend, it passes the State Farm on the left and Rogers Hill on the right. Here, James and Joseph Rogers settled, and their cemetery on a knoll off the road is where Joseph was buried after being scalped by the Indians in the fall of 1837. With Edward Burleson, these men often gathered groups to patrol the settlements along the river; they later moved to Fort Prairie, which was a name for the area around Fort Coleman.<sup>9</sup>

The pioneer travelers always stopped at Fort Coleman; it is known that Lamar did, because he arrived at Waterloo from there for that famous buffalo hunt with an escort of rangers including James O. Rice and Willis Avery. The old fort is gone, but it was located near the intersection of Webberville Road and Nineteenth Street, about two miles above Hornsby Bend, one mile east of Montopolis, and at the northwest corner of Jesse Tannehill's League.<sup>10</sup>

Fort Coleman was built in the summer of 1836, shortly after

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the General Council had established on November 28, 1835, three companies of rangers, twenty-five in each company, under Captain John J. Tumlinson, to guard settlers on the Brazos, Colorado and Trinity Rivers. These rangers were paid \$1.25 daily, and they furnished their own horses and ammunition.<sup>11</sup>

The fort was named for Captain Robert M. Coleman, whom President David G. Burnet made a captain in 1836. This man, a tall Kentuckian, with dark hair and eyes, remained a ranger until 1837, when he resigned after a difference with Sam Houston, and he drowned later in the Brazos River. His wife and children were victims of a Comanche raid in February, 1839.<sup>12</sup>

As one continues to travel on this road toward Austin, there is a monument to Fort Coleman and its Texas Rangers, but it was placed in a pasture.<sup>13</sup> Miss Susannah Moehr remembers living across the road from the old fort; that her father tore down old log cabins, once part of the fort located there by the spring and the creek. When Lamar stopped there, it was a cluster of cabins, surrounded by a stockade, high on a hill, on Walnut, or Coleman Creek, as it was also called, about five miles east of Austin. The monument reads:

The site of Fort Colorado (also called Coleman's Fort) established and first commanded by Colonel Robert M. Coleman, succeeded by Captain Michael Andrews and Captain William M. Eastland, an extreme frontier outpost occupied by Texas Rangers to protect Anglo-American civilization from savage Indians in this vicinity.

In January, 1836, Tumlinson's company served on the Colorado River with about sixty mounted men, including Noah Smithwick. The company ranged from Hornsby's up to Brushy Creek, east of Austin. Coleman replaced Tumlinson and built the fort named for him.

The small community which grew up close by, east of the fort, on the prairie, was called Fort Prairie. It was once called Johns' town, too, because several men with that first name lived there.

The rangers skirmished often with the Indians, and it was on the prairie around the fort that these men and Reuben Hornsby and Jacob Harrell met, while hunting buffalo.<sup>14</sup> When the rangers disbanded and left the fort in 1838, some of the men



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settled at Austin, among them Horace and Rodney Baker, Felix McClusky, William Miller, and James O. Rice.

In the Travis County area, there were several forts: one in 1830 at the mouth of Wilbarger Creek about ten miles above Bastrop; one at Coleman Branch three miles below Webber's Prairie in 1831; one at Webber's Prairie; one at Thomas A. Moore's on the west bank of Gilleland Creek (named for an early settler, James Gilleland) in 1831, his later place was known as Moore's Crossing on the south side of the river; one at Comanche, also on the south side of the river, just below the mouth of Onion Creek in 1831; one at Hornsby's in 1832; and Fort Coleman in 1836.<sup>15</sup>

Not many who got grants of land in Travis County ventured over to the far (south) side of the river, but a few did, like Bobby Mitchell, John McGehee, Thomas W. Moore, John Moore, Robert Moore, Nathaniel Moore, and James Gilleland. Thomas W. Moore, a freighter when the rangers were at Fort Coleman, married the daughter of Aaron Burleson, and their old log cabins still stand at Moore's Crossing. A book could be written about this place and the people. Their son, Robert, was born in 1833 in a tent where they lived on Gilleland Creek, and the story of this settlement is fascinating, even into this century in 1925 when the Engler murder in that area was made memorable by the headlines, and by the reward that reputedly still stands for its solution. Also there were James, John, Joseph, Aaron, and Johnathan Burleson who knew Travis County as pioneers.

Lewis and William Hancock settled on Onion Creek in 1838 on the John Burleson place, as did John McGehee and Morgan Hamilton of Huntsville, Alabama, in 1837. In 1830, John Caldwell also went across the river from Webber's and located on the Navarro grant. This presently is the Garfield area and near the site of the town of Comanche. This township was about one mile from the mouth of Onion Creek and is part of the Rowe Caldwell land on the south bank of the river.

Comanche was the site of an early Indian trading post, in the Travis County area, and was a competitor for the site of the capital city. The towns of Waterloo and Comanche were incorporated January 15, 1839,<sup>16</sup> and had the first post offices listed for Travis County. Comanche offered 18,015 acres to the Republic of Texas if the capital were placed at its location. Co-

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manche dates back to the Mexican period in Texas, decades before Travis County and Austin were settled. In the special Alamo Papers file in the Texas State Archives, is a letter William J. Cannon wrote from Soldiers Home, Leavenworth, Kansas on August 3, 1892, of his claim to property "in front of Austin." He states in that letter and a statement of June 9, 1893, that before Texas was thought of, his family lived on Onion Creek, four and a half miles south of Austin, where he was born March 16, 1821, son of William C. Cannon and Martha Cannon. His father came from Tennessee in 1815 and had a small trading post one-half mile up this creek, where the Caddos, Lipans, Tonkaws, and Comanches came in small parties to trade. The trading post was located one-half mile from their house to keep Indians away.<sup>17</sup> His family consisted of his father, mother, a brother, John Henry Cannon, age 18, and three sisters, Susan (wife of Lt. Almeron Dickinson), and Hattie, age 23, and Mayagel, age 21.

According to these papers, when he was ten years old, there was a big "run" of Indians and his family moved to San Antonio for safety, where they lived on Northwest Laredo Street, across the river west from the Alamo. Later his father moved into the Milano Blanco where some of the troops were stationed. His oldest sister (a half-sister), Mrs. Dickinson, lived in the righthand room entering the Alamo, and the Cannon family lived there when Travis and Bonham came. He remembered Senora Andrea Castanon Candelaria taking care of the sick Bowie and seeing Bowie, Travis, Crockett, and others killed. He claims his father, mother, two sisters, and brother were killed in the walls of the fort at the Alamo, but his god-mother, Senora Candelaria, helped him escape to Dr. Levario's house where the Menger Hotel stands in 1961.

Cannon claimed that he lived his later years with the Indians, and spoke fourteen Indian languages, Spanish, French, and English. He returned to Texas with "Chief Jeronimo" in 1887, at which time Cannon told his story in San Antonio.

Governor James S. Hogg questioned the story in answering Cannon's letter on July 7, 1893, in writing to General W. P. Hardeman. Nathan Mitchell (a General Land Office clerk in Austin during the Archives War of 1842), replying for General Hardeman on July 12, 1893, stated that William Cannon lived

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in the northwestern part of Bexar County and at that time was drawing a pension as a Mexican War veteran.

Many who had gotten grants in the Travis County area in the 1830's did not settle them. One of these was the Del Valle grant made to Don Santiago del Valle in 1832, which was a long time in being settled. It is situated where Bergstrom Air Force Base was erected during World War II.

As the traveler leaves Webberville Road near the Nineteenth Street intersection, he should take the lower road, the path of the pioneers, which brings one into modern Austin through Montopolis. It was at Montopolis, on his league of land that Jesse Tannehill from Kentucky, laid out a town; but this town, his dream, was to die defeated. As one drives past the Montopolis area to the Seventh Street entry to Austin, he can envision the city Tannehill planned on his eight hundred acres of land, conveyed to him by the State of Coahuila and Texas in 1832.

William M. Eastland, Silas Dinsmore, J. S. Lester, J. L. Lynch, and James Smith joined him in the venture, and on the north side of the Colorado River, where Howard's Nursery is presently a landmark, in a setting of cottonwood, elm, hackberry, and pecan trees, the enterprisers laid out their town. The sale of building lots and farm lots was held in July, 1839. The main street led through the town from a stake on the river bank, and there was a provision that this main street always be kept open for traffic, and that the waterfront be reserved for the town.

Deeds and papers in the name of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Howard show the patent records of the State of Coahuila and Texas, and on October 29, 1832, by the Commissioner Miguel Arciniega and Empresario Stephen F. Austin "Englis acers" for ingress and egress farms, and deeds of 1835 show J. C. Tannehill appearing at the town of Mina (Bastrop) regarding his property at Montopolis, which was part of Austin's Little Colony. Tannehill later deeded some of the land to his daughter, Jane, who married Aaron Burleson.

On July 2, 1839, the owners and promoters of Montopolis sold building blocks. Lots 5, 6, 15, and 16 were set aside for churches, seminaries of learning, and other public buildings and to promote the general prosperity of the place. Lots 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, and 13 were laid out 200 yards wide and 524 yards deep,



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and were each 22 acres. Lots on the other side of the main street, numbered 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, were 200 yards wide, 602 yards deep, and had 25 acres each. The farm lots sold for \$11.87½ per acre.

But at that time, Waterloo, or Austin, was having sales of lots, and by the fall of 1839, Montopolis began to wane. In 1840, two of the buyers sold back to J. C. Tannehill farm lot 11, facing Main Street. Six years later, the men were dividing the unsold portions of the town trace on Main Street leading to the river. The founders of this town did not dream that their town would revert to being just "earth land" as specified in the deed.<sup>18</sup>

From Montopolis the early settlers went in along about the path of Seventh Street, until the Robertson Hill area, in about the 900 block, when they veered down toward Fifth Street, and this is the route of Lamar on his triumphal entry into Austin as President of the Republic of Texas in the fall of 1839.

And having followed in the footsteps of the forefathers over the old trace they traveled to Waterloo, one receives additional appreciation for the story of Travis County, and its county seat, Austin, which grew up out of the village of Waterloo, and for the men who made it memorable.

It might well have been these forefathers, and their fathers, as they settled and built this county, who inspired John Ruskin to say:

Therefore, when we build, let us think that we build forever. Let it not be for the present delight, nor for present use alone; let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for, and let us think, as we lay stone on stone, that a time will come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say as they look upon the labor and wrought substance of them, "See! this our fathers did for us."

Here, the story becomes that of the settlement of Waterloo (or later Austin) in the county area in 1839. This is also the story of Mirabeau B. Lamar's completing the dream of the Austins. Lamar admired them and said of Moses Austin "It was the enterprise of Moses Austin which finally succeeded and brought immortal honor to his name, and laid the foundation of a glorious republic."<sup>19</sup>

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It was the dream of Moses Austin to have a town named Austina, rivaling New Orleans, and to navigate the Colorado River and to seek the Santa Fe trade. When he died in 1821, his son Stephen F. Austin dedicated himself to this dream. It seemed possible to navigate the Colorado River to near Santa Fe; later, Lamar surveyed the situation, founded the town of Austin, and the Santa Fe expedition soon was tried.

In his early life, Lamar had been at the founding of a town in Alabama, and it too, was on the banks of a river. Perhaps, at that historical buffalo hunt, he sat awhile on the banks of the Colorado River, and remembered the long ago evening back in Alabama, on the banks of the Chattahoochee, where the new town of Cahawba was founded, and the poem he wrote then, "Sunset Skies"<sup>20</sup> which says,

While gazing on the splendid scene,  
I sometimes think I see  
My long-lost friends, with smile serene,  
Waving their hands for me—  
As if they fain, from earthly woes,  
Would call me to their own repose.

From Lamar's background, one may learn of many events in his Texas life that were akin, or identical to happenings in his past in Georgia, where he was born on August 16, 1798. His middle name of Buonaparte dates back to an uncle who named him for a historic hero of his readings. Did this have any bearing later, on the name of Waterloo, in Travis County?

Later, Lamar was in the new town of Cahawba, Alabama, which was named the capital of that state, and in May, 1819, the authorities were having an auction of lots.<sup>21</sup> Did all this inspire the same happenings twenty years later in Austin?

Also, in 1825, as secretary to the governor of Alabama, Lamar led the party that met and greeted General Lafayette, and attended the banquet and parade.<sup>22</sup> Fourteen years later one finds Lamar triumphantly entering the capital city of Austin, with a parade and banquet, along the same pattern.

Cahawba was not the only new town with whose founding he was familiar; he later settled in the new town of Columbus, just being surveyed, and this town was on the river Chattahoochee.<sup>23</sup> It was along the banks of this river that he, his wife and daugh-

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ter often walked, and there later he sat with his memories and wrote poems and songs. After his wife died in 1830, his sister in 1833, and his father and brother in 1834, he left Georgia and Alabama, and in 1835, was in Texas. In 1834, he had written, "At Evening on the Banks of the Chattahoochee," which says in part:<sup>24</sup>

Often when the sun along the west  
His farewell splendor throws,  
Imparting to the wounded breast  
The spirit of repose,  
My mind reverts to former themes,  
To joys of other days,  
When love illumined all my dreams,  
And hope inspired my days.

Did he, when he came to hunt on the banks of the Colorado River,—did he relive those happy days and envision the city here, to commemorate the Austins, particularly Stephen F. Austin, who died in 1836, and of whom he said, "first of patriots and the best of men"?<sup>25</sup>

Machinery was in motion for the location of the capital city, and Waterloo was wilderness then, the haunt mostly of the Indian and the buffalo. General Edward Burleson started the settlement of Waterloo in 1838, and probably hosted the gathering of men for that buffalo hunt in the springtime, near Jacob Harrell's, "at a ford over the Colorado, called Waterloo."<sup>26</sup>

Was this ford the inspiration for the name of Waterloo, because it became so hazardous at flood times? This crossing at the foot of Shoal Creek is shown on the map of Austin's Little Colony, which also shows the cabin of Jacob Harrell there, instead of at the foot of Congress Avenue. One wonders whether David G. Burnet had told Lamar of this scenic site, which he knew when he came to Texas in 1817 or 1818, and spent many moons in the Comanche camps, for his health, and was probably on the trail with them when they crossed this ford on the Comanche trail. In his *Annals of Travis County*, Brown says, "the ford there has a rock bottom, shallow, and is the crossing at the foot of the mountains."<sup>27</sup>

The story of the buffalo hunt is well-known. Harrell's small son alerted the men early in the morning of the buffalo's appearance, and Lamar bagged one, after rushing it up the ravine



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that later became Congress Avenue. Somewhere near the site of the capitol, he contributed his classic comment, "This should be the seat of the future empire."<sup>28</sup>

Harrell's cabin must have known a gala group then. Lamar had with him his secretary, Edward Fontaine,<sup>29</sup> and from Fort Coleman east of Austin, six rangers, including Willis Avery and James C. Rice.<sup>30</sup>

The other settlers up this way must have joined them, and was the conversation about those epic events of the Republic of Texas, Bowie and Travis and Crockett and the defeat at the Alamo, of the murderous massacre of Fannin's men at Goliad, and the terrific triumph at San Jacinto? Did they relive the trying times when the convention met at Washington-on-the-Brazos, and on March 2, 1836, on Sam Houston's birthday, the Texans had found freedom?<sup>31</sup>

Surely, they passed judgment on the days and deeds of those of the provisional government, the government ad interim, and the presidency of Sam Houston, with the city of Houston being named as the seat of government, and the authorization of buildings to be erected there, despite the then debt of the Republic.

They must have reminisced over the meeting of the Second Congress, when commissioners were appointed to select a site for the capital, with Houston vetoing the idea of locating it north of the San Antonio road, which crossed the Colorado River near Bastrop.

Mention must have been made of Lamar's being President of the Republic of Texas, with David G. Burnet as Vice President, and the seal and flag of Texas, as it is still known, becoming official in that same year.<sup>32</sup>

They surely discussed the locating of the capital city in Travis County, because the five commissioners had been appointed to select the site, and close by was Comanche, the little town that was competing with Waterloo for selection.

The report of the commissioners was dated on April 13, 1839, at Houston, and they followed their instructions of selecting and securing land of not more than four leagues, nor less than one, nor to cost more than \$3 per acre, to be procured by the end of three months. Lamar had suggested that they look at Waterloo, and the same act of Congress designated the name

## *History of Travis County*

of the capital as Austin, as suggested by Thomas J. Hardeman, in 1836.<sup>33</sup>

Lamar's old rival, Sam Houston, had a town named for him, and there must have been some concern that the seat of government had been moved so many times. So, it was that the colonization of Stephen F. Austin's Little Colony was to be completed in Travis County, and the county seat, Austin, became a tribute to the Austins, who for a decade had dedicated themselves to their dreams for Texas, but were defeated by death.

### OTHER SETTLEMENTS IN TRAVIS COUNTY

BAGDAD, presently a ghost town, was once in northwestern Travis County. It was named for Baghdad, Iraq, because it too, was at the crossroads of the great highways of trade. Bagdad, Texas, was envisioned as being the crossroads between Dallas and Houston. The older Baghdad declined because of wars, attacks by Mongols and Turks, and loss of trade territory when the sea route was discovered around Africa. Bagdad, Travis County, Texas, withstood the Civil War, attacks by Indians, but died when the whirring wheels of a railroad passed it by and went to Leander, close by.

The Franciscan Fathers and early Spanish explorers wrote in 1714 in their journals about the fertile fields, wild game and wilder horses in this area. The early maps of Travis County show this section with its wild horses, and as early as 1770, these mustangs were being herded and sold.

By 1850, there was a post office at Bagdad. J. F. Heinatz was out at the Bagdad Prairie in 1853, and had a blacksmith shop and store at the town that was laid out in 1860, with settlers from Tennessee. Jim Williamson, oldtime trail driver, lived there all his life; his parents too, came from Tennessee, in 1851, with a party of about fifty, including some slaves. In 1960, Miss Dora Heinatz lived in the Heinatz home, over a century old, with its rosewood piano and other frontier furnishings. Its stage-coach stop, at the old hotel, and old, old cemetery are of historical significance.

BEE CAVES, by 1882, had its school in a 10 x 12-foot rock room, but before that the Johnsons were there. Still widely known is the Trading Post of Wiley Johnson, on the Bee Cave Road, where hundreds stop on a Sunday afternoon ride. It had

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its beginning in 1871, when Wiley's father, Will Johnson, moved there from the old home place on Onion Creek. He hauled coal and wood down that hilly, wagon road to Austin, helped rope outlaw horses, and knew well the wagon roads that met where the present Trading Post is, crossing the river at Dohme's ferry and at Barton's. For eighty years plus, Will was a cattleman and rancher there; his son Wiley opened the trading post across the road from the corrals and barns where the western ranchers penned their cattle overnight on the trail to Austin. This trading post, originally a room 20 x 30 feet, on a cattle trail in the land that knew no fences nor fields and was just open range, is now on a paved highway, and has known settlers like Wash Hammett, Blue Hammett, Roy Kelso, Cal and Rob Roy, Dad Cade, Frank Hill, and George Turner. The trading post's trade territory has become Texas; customers from all over come to hunt and fish and headquarter there. Wiley is his own Chamber of Commerce and Bureau of Information; he knows where everything and everybody in that area is, even to the fish and the game.

BLUFF SPRINGS, in southern Travis County, was settled about 1882 near the bluff and the springs, and soon had a school.

CARLSON had a school built by 1881, located just south of the newer school built in 1907.

CEDAR VALLEY, with both the cedars and the valley there, was started by an early settler, Mark Thomas. The first school was in a log house on his land, dating back to 1867. This was replaced with a new building in 1875.

CELE began when A. C. Johnson started his store in the farming community in northeast Travis County in the 1890's. It became the nucleus of the community that grew up there.

COLTON. When the McKenzie brothers, Don and Jamie, started the settlement that became Colton, in southeastern Travis County, they meant it to be called Cotton for the crop that grew there.

CREEDMOOR was close to Colton, and its name meant just what the religious settlers had, more creeds; so, someone started calling it that, and it ceased to be Willow Springs, the original name given because of the willows and the spring by the gin.

DEL VALLE. By 1850, settlements were starting everywhere in Travis County; one of these was Del Valle, named for



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the Spaniard who secured the original grant there, Santiago del Valle. In 1850, W. M. Givenscane, from Kentucky, started a store there and became the first postmaster.<sup>34</sup>

DRIPPING SPRINGS started in 1875 and was the location of the Dripping Springs Academy in the 1880's.

DUVAL. W. L. Giles came to Austin about 1850, and also lived at Duval in northwestern Travis County. During the 1880's, a town grew up there, and James A. Wright was the store-keeper. Often on Sundays, special trains went to Duval from Austin with all-day picnic excursions, until Waters Park grew up to be a rival town. Later Hamilton Wright, son of the store-keeper, wrote of the days of his boyhood in Duval, which was named for Douglas Duval.

ELROY. The *Defender* of 1936, containing stories of the rural schools of Travis County, claims that Santa Anna gave the land where Elroy is located to an officer, who later traded it for a horse and saddle for transportation back to Mexico. It was called Driskill for the family who built the Austin hotel, who owned the land later, with a school there by 1894, and a store and church and post office.

GARFIELD started with a church on the land of Colonel John Caldwell for Reverend Haynie; this was later moved to what is known as Haynie's Chapel, in eastern Travis County. This became Garfield at the time of the president of that name. A school was started in 1892.

KIMBRO is a Spanish name; the settlement and the school in eastern Travis County were first called Cottonwood for the creek nearby. William Smith was one of the first settlers, and in 1877 paid \$5.30 per acre for the land, which had originally sold for sixty cents an acre. Because of the many rattlesnakes in that section, it was not desirable for a time. The 1800's were ending before a school was started and a store and gin also came into being. This community later was called Kimbro, for a local landowner.<sup>35</sup>

LITTIG is a community that grew up on Wilbarger Creek, and Captain J. W. Bitting gave the customary acre of land for the church and school, built in 1887.

LUND. A group of Swedish families started their homes in a settlement they called Pleasant Hill; later, about 1899, the town was named Lund for the Lundgren family.

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MAHA. The century was closing, in 1899, when the community started which was out at Mayhard Creek. The name was not easy to pronounce, so it soon became Maha. It is in the southeast corner of the county, toward Bastrop, where an old trail crossed the river. It was first called Poor Farm.

MANCHACA. Dr. W. A. Ellison lived there and took care of the sick from about 1849 to 1883, when, with P. von Rosenberg, he opened a drug store in Austin. Manchaca dates back to about 1880, when it grew up along the route of the International and Great Northern Railroad. It was named for the springs there, which were named for a colonel in the Mexican army who died there.

MANOR in the eastern part of Travis County, was named for James Manor, who started the town about 1850. Eight years later the first school was started.

MCNEIL was named for George McNeil, a railroad man, and is the base of operations for the Austin White Lime Company, producing one of Travis County's principal commodities.

MERRILLTOWN was started by Captain Nelson Merrill, who came to Travis County in 1837, and started the store and the post office; the stage also stopped there. The old cemetery still exists as a reminder.

MOORE'S CROSSING is mentioned earlier.

NAMELESS. Not many have heard of Nameless, Texas. It was a town on Big Sandy Creek in northwestern Travis County, and is still shown on the maps as Nameless. Not much remains there now except stone steps and fences from the old store and post office, high on a hill overlooking Big Sandy. Across the creek on the other side is the old church and school and cemetery. The records of the National Archives in Washington show that the Nameless post office was started on January 19, 1880, and discontinued on January 13, 1890. When the settlers requested a post office there, they submitted six names; and each was turned down because there were already post offices by the name suggested. Finally, they wrote to the post office department saying: "Let the post office be nameless, and be d----d." So, the post office department accepted their suggestion.<sup>36</sup> It was listed as Nameless, Texas.

When Bob Turner settled on the nearby Colorado River about a century ago, the land back of him on Big Sandy was

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reserved for his three children, that on the north side for Riley Turner, whose son, Nolan Turner, lived there. Another son, Bell Turner, received the land on the south side of the creek, and a daughter, Mrs. Pat Cook, had land farther back. Bob Turner later carried the mail from Leander out to the little town; and he knew it when the church grounds were their meeting place, with week-long camp meetings and barbecues to which people came from miles away. At one of these camp meetings, while they were singing a church song, the elderly J. P. Corley, a postmaster there, died at the gathering in the brush arbor. The community was thickly settled then, and most of the postmasters lived either up or down the creek from Nameless. They were: Philip T. Stroud, appointed January 19, 1880; J. P. Corley, May 5, 1885; Mrs. Nancy H. Olds, August 19, 1885; Nancy H. Burns, November 1, 1886; John W. Cox, August 4, 1887; James P. Colley, December 29, 1889; Thomas B. Atterberry, February 19, 1889.

In this highland lakes area, the Colorado River winds through canyons and cliffs and coves. A nearby community to Nameless, called Volente, was partially submerged by the lake; presently Dodd City near there, has reverted to the old name of Volente. There, a young girl of fifteen, now Mrs. H. E. Hensel, carried the mail, by horseback, by buggy, from Cedar Park to her mother's home at Volente, where Mrs. Allie Annie Anderson was postmistress and kept the mail in a dishpan, on a washstand. Some of the old rail fences still stand in that neighborhood.

Just a few miles down the creek from Nameless and Volente, is the site of Anderson's Mill. Miss Lucy Anderson, of Austin, remembers the stories her grandfather told of this. After the Civil War, this resourceful man modernized his place with irrigation, from a tank with a hand-made hydraulic ram, with pipe he brought from Brenham by oxen in the 1870's. His mill, near Nameless, was built in 1863, serving the pioneers there and the Confederates during the war.

Currently, many of the old communities in the highland lakes area are losing their identities and becoming supply points and recreation centers for hunting and fishing, but not Nameless. A few enterprising emigrants to the cattle country around there tried calling it Fairview for a while, but they were not success-



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ful. To its founding fathers who listed it as a post office in Washington, it was Nameless, and it probably will always be Nameless, Texas.

NEW SWEDEN was once called Knight's Ranch, and is located north of Manor. When the New Sweden Lutheran Church was started, the community took that name. The community started about 1873, had a cotton gin in 1882, and a post office in 1886, with Axel Seaholm as its first postmaster.

OAK HILL in southern Travis County grew mostly about 1882, when a railroad was built to bring stone, quarried there, to Austin for the new capitol building. The town was first called Oatmanville, Shiloh, Live Oak, and then Oak Hill, and stores and saloons set up shop there during the building of the capitol.

PFLUGERVILLE. In 1849, the settlement was started by Henry Pfluger, who came to Austin from Germany, bringing eight sons to found the town. The William Bohns family followed them. By the end of the century there was a church and school, store and post office, blacksmith shop, and several homes there. The town was about one-half mile east of the present location, which was started about the early 1900's.

SAINT ELMO was located first near the site of Pleasant Hill, when Henry Radam's store was started on the San Antonio road, near what is known now as the St. Elmo road. Nicholas McArthur, son of Mrs. Mary Doyle, who donated land to St. Edward's College, suggested the name of St. Elmo for the book of that title. The school was first located about the 4700 block of South First Street in the 1880's and became the St. Elmo School District in 1914.

SPRINKLE was started about 1894, with Z. P. Jourdan one of the first settlers.

TRAVIS PEAK was begun by Herman Hensel, the first settler, in the early 1850's; in 1862, he married Bertha Reidel of Austin, and they lived at Travis Peak, where they went in a wagon pulled by oxen.

VOLENTE is located on Lake Travis today, and in 1886 had its own post office, until about 1910. The mail came in by carrier on horseback in those days, to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Anderson. Mrs. Anderson served as postmistress.

WATERS PARK. Many living in Austin knew the nineties

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in Travis County. Mr. Eck Alley, in his lifetime, remembered the summer Sundays he spent at Waters Park, when it was the vacation and resort spot north of Austin. The trains ran excursions there on Sundays, to the park, where one swam, waded in Walnut Creek, or just plain picnicked.

## CHAPTER II

# *Geography-Topography-Indians*

In writing the history of a county, one sees that the topography and geography are synonymous with the area itself. They are essential elements of the story, since the settlers were dependent on these features which attracted them, and their adaptability to them.

Since Travis County contains Austin, the capital of Texas and its county seat, then this region is truly the heart of Texas although geographically it is located in southeast Central Texas, where the prairies meet the hills.

The county was organized in 1840, and its area is shown on many maps: one shows the original territory and boundaries of Austin's Little Colony granted to him in 1827, from which this county devolved; another, by Hunt and Randel in 1839, shows the entire area of Bastrop County, from which Travis County was created. When Austin became the capital city of the Republic of Texas, it was in Bastrop County. Maps in 1851, show the area of Travis County with its corridor far north of its present territory; another shows remnants of Travis County dangling and separated from that of the present area. At one time Travis County extended over an area of 400,000 square miles; in 1960 it covers 1,015 square miles. As areas were taken from it to form other counties, there was a time when one map showed four separate Travis County areas.

It is interesting to note that the following counties were taken in part from Travis County: Brown County, in 1856; Burnet County, in 1852; Callahan County, 1858; Coleman County, 1858; Comal County, 1846; Eastland County, 1858; Gillespie County, 1848; Hays County, 1848; Lampasas County, 1856; Runnels County, 1858; and Taylor County, 1858, containing the city of Abilene, was once part of Travis County.



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Travis County was originally a scenic strip in Central Texas, and the hunters and land speculators who hurried to it played hide and seek with the Indians and the buffalo. As a frontier area it was fascinating. Stories of the new Texas republic had gone out to the Southerners in nearby states, and many had hastened to Texas, like Davy Crockett, who were as tall and as tough as the timber they felled.

Certainly Travis County must have been a scenic sight that spring of 1839, looking to the west where the cedar-covered hills of the Edwards Plateau hovered over the canyon cut by the Colorado River, curving and circling from the northwest to the southeast where the prairies were colorful with bluebonnets, winecups, Indian blankets, redbud, wild verbena, and Indian paintbrush, and overhead hung the same cotton candy clouds as today.

The cypress, cottonwood, and sycamore trees lined the creeks and streams, while nearby were the chinaberry, elm, hackberry, oak, and willow trees. Plenty of wood for fences and for fuel existed, and those first settlers must have found bull nettles, honeysuckle, niggerheads, sunflowers, broomweed for their Christmas decorations, goldenrod for hay fever, and agarita berries for jelly making, with purple sage for beauty and evergreen cedars for fence posts.

The county was criss-crossed with creeks called Barton, Bear, Bee, Big and Little Walnut, Boggy, Bull, Cow, Cross, Cypress, Dry, Gilleland, Onion, Sandy, Shoal, Waller, Wilbarger, and Williamson. There were limestone bluffs and white rocks, as at Mountain City (Kyle) and Manchaca Springs. This white chalk lined Shoal and Waller Creeks, and while Austin had a lush loamy land to offer the planters, there was also blackland for farming at Creedmoor, Manor, Taylor, and Webberville. Grass was growing on the prairie, and sandy beaches were left from ages gone.<sup>1</sup>

The map of Austin Quadrangle shows the varying characteristics of Travis County. Just a few miles southeast of the capitol, there is Pilot Knob. Geologists claim the creek nearby was once an old lake basin, and today one can see the three knobs or hills from the old extinct volcano.<sup>2</sup>

Geology history shows that for millions of years the Texas tideline ebbed and flowed over a two to three hundred mile area,

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from Travis County in Central Texas to the present gulf line. At one time the high hills were under water, with geologists claiming the tideline ran from Dallas through Austin and San Antonio to Del Rio.

The volcano can trace its origin to those days, from which it has left igneous rock scattered over the farmland surrounding it, fertilizing it for the members of the Sassman family who have lived there about eighty years, often making a bale to the acre in good years in their cotton crop.

In Travis County's yesterdays, when this old volcano was vibrant, lava supposedly oozed out of the earth ten miles away, and its crater was nearly a mile wide. Then the old crater cooled down, and now grass grows up to the center of it. There are chinaberry trees on the knob that remains. Because it became a beacon, it was called Pilot Knob. But the volcano had its valedictory and now it furnishes fertile fields for a farm, and is a beacon to Bergstrom Field pilots. Today it is a part of the history of Travis County.

The present riches of the county's subsurface soils also date back to those days when the tidelands were in Travis County. There were high mountains then, and as the tide ebbed and flowed, leaving south and central Texas as tidelands, these high mountains were worn down by the wind and the weather. The tidelands left plant and animal life, then sea and sand deposits over them, for the minerals and stones of the present.

Today, the subsurface soil is a warehouse of wealth, a storeroom of stone. Limestone and shellstone, which is peculiar to this area, can be traced back to when this area was the tide line, and this shellstone contains completely calcified fish eggs and shells perfectly preserved. At the Texas Memorial Museum one can see samples of the starfish calcified in stone.

Much of Travis County's distinctive building material is underground stone of all sorts; as shellstone which cannot be found elsewhere in the United States. It is quarried at a depth of about ten feet, just north of Austin, by Texas Quarries, Inc. It can be seen in the Travis County courthouse, as well as on the San Jacinto Monument near Houston, where it sends its shellstone shaft into the sky about six hundred feet.<sup>3</sup>

Other resources of the Travis County area are lime and bricks. At McNeil, north of Austin, the Austin White Lime

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Company converts the native limestone into lime. Some of the clay in the county is also converted into bricks by such enterprises as the Butler Brick Company.

The blackland prairie country of southern and eastern Travis County meets the eastern edge of the hilly Edwards Plateau in the northwestern part of the county. Thus, the southern and eastern parts of the county are mostly lands of cotton and other crops, and stock raising, while in the hill country to the northwest and west, cattle, sheep and goat ranches are found.

The Balcones Escarpment, or Fault, cuts through the center of Travis County, showing a distinct change in the contour of the country, with the rolling, undulating prairie below it, and the hilly plateau above it.<sup>4</sup> All of the county, however, is scenic. Even the prairie lands to the south and east, are rolling, waving regions, with creeks and streams of water bordered with native trees.

In Travis County, the climate is also central, between the hard winters of the North Texas area and the humid hotness of the South Texas country. The average annual temperature is 68.2°, and the daily summer reading is about 83 degrees, with the winters having a few freezes.

The growing season in the county averages about 266 days, and the water supply has been plentiful since the early days of Travis County, with the average annual rainfall being 36.18 inches. Water supply is available from the river which half-circles the city of Austin, and runs through Travis County. Presently, the river at Austin forms a 22-mile lake (named Lake Austin), created by the construction of Tom Miller Dam west of the city, with almost unlimited possibilities for industry and recreation. Lake Austin is one of the Highland Lakes—along with Buchanan, Inks, Granite Shoals, Marble Falls, and Travis. Austin's new town lake runs about five miles through the city below Lake Austin. This series of lakes is linked together for over one hundred and fifty miles for sports, and is a storehouse of water and a generator of power.

In Austin springs furnished the early citizens with water; in fact, Congress Avenue in Austin was the course of a spring that started up about the northeast corner of Fourteenth and Lavaca Streets, circled through the capitol grounds on the west side, down the avenue from about Eleventh Street to ap-



proximately the location of the Paramount Theater, then down to the alley between the Driskill Hotel and Littlefield Building, and eastward to run into Waller Creek between Third and Fourth Streets.

Another spring started about the northeast corner of Tenth and Congress, and another at the southeast corner of Tenth and Congress. Shoal Creek on the west side of Austin, and Waller Creek on the east edge of the town, are running streams as they were 120 years ago, and there was little Shoal Creek, starting in the alley back of Newman Hall at 21st and Guadalupe, and winding down Nueces Street. One can trace its path by the large cypress and other trees that once bushed its banks.

Mention must be made of another source of water for Travis County: the Santa Monica Springs, sometimes called Sulphur Springs, about fifteen miles northwest of Austin, where the Comanches supposedly camped. The picture shows these springs as they were about 1890, before they were submerged by the lake, and about the time a University professor analyzed their content, as discussed later.

The scenic site of the county and its central climate have inspired many writers to comment about it. In talking about the area, L. T. Pease wrote:

When once fully explored, however, such was the tempting beauty of the landscape upon its borders, that no dangers could deter the settlers from seeking an abode in a region, that in appearance, realized their most seducing dreams of a paradise upon earth,

and

Scites [sic] of future cities are marked at many points upon this river.<sup>5</sup>

It was a picturesque place, and Amelia Barr wrote of it later:

Other portions of Texas are lovely as Paradise, but nowhere had I ever seen such exquisite and picturesque arrangement of wood and mountains, grassy stretches, and silvery waters, and crowned hills . . .

The city was built on hills, surrounded by a rampart of higher hills, crowned with the evergreen cedar, and the shining waters of the Colorado

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wound in and out among these hills, and then swept grandly round the southern part of the city.<sup>6</sup>

Lamar's memorable message to Congress on November 12, 1839, commending Edwin Waller for completing the capitol in time for Congress, commented on opposition to locating it here:

. . . but it is believed that you will perceive in the centrality of its geographical position, the apparent healthfulness of its climate, the beauty of its scenery, the abundance and convenience of its material for constructing the most permanent edifices, its easy access to our maritime frontier, and its adaption to protection against Indian depredations, thereby inviting settlements to one of the finest portions of our country, ample proofs of the judgment and fidelity of the Commissioners, and abundant reason to approve their choice.<sup>7</sup>

Among the written descriptions of Travis County is a letter from J. S. Jones to M. B. Lamar, dated on April 14, 1839, and reading:

In Camp near Webber's on the Colorado River.

We shall take up the line of march tomorrow for Waterloo, a small village at the foot of the mountains, where I think it probable we shall remain in camp protecting the frontier when necessary until ordered to form a junction with the residue of the men designed for the Santa Fe Expedition — We are marching through a beautiful country — Its face presents a scene of grandeur and magnificence rarely if ever witnessed I imagine in any other part of the American continent . . . .<sup>8</sup>

And another letter (concerning Waterloo, the center of Travis County).

Camp on Wilbarger's Prairie.

I have just returned from Waterloo, the contemplated new seat of government, which I visited in company with Genl. Burleson. It is the most beautiful and at the same time the most sublime scene I ever saw. I know you will be delighted with it, and I frequently wished that you were present to enjoy the scenery as I saw it in all the majesty of nature and the verdure of Spring. The atmosphere

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was charged with the most delightful perfume and every shrub and every hill and every flower seemed to extend a welcome to the weary traveller. I never expected to realize your eloquent description of Texas till I saw the lands of the upper Colorado — There are an hundred of the most beautiful sites for building round the town level and Rome itself with all its famous hills could not have surpassed the natural scenery of Waterloo. When I have a better opportunity I will send you a landscape of the spot and the surrounding country . . . .<sup>9</sup>

This letter was signed W. Jefferson Jones, Waterloo 15 April, 1839.

There is no better description of Travis County and Austin, however, than that contained in the report of the five commissioners appointed to select a site for the capital in 1839:

Report of the Commissioners Named to Select a Permanent  
Capital for the Republic of Texas

City of Houston

April 13th A. D. 1839

To,

His Excellency,

Mirabeau B. Lamar,

President of the Republic of Texas,

The Commissioners appointed under the act of Congress dated January 1839, for locating the permanent site of the Seat of Government for the Republic, have the honor to report to your Excellency.

That they have selected the site of the Town of Waterloo on the East Bank of the Colorado River with the lands adjoining as per the Deed of the Sheriff of Bastrop County bearing date March 1839, and per the relinquishments of Logan Vandever, James Rogers, G. D. Handcock, J. W. Herrall, and Aaron Burleson by Edward Burleson all under date of 7th March 1839, as the site combining the greatest number of, and the most important advantages to the Republic by the location of the Seat of Government thereon, than any other situation which came under their observation within the limits assigned them, and as being therefore their choice for the location aforesaid.

We have the honor to represent to your Excellency that we have traversed and critically examined the country on both sides of the Colorado and Brazos Rivers from the Upper San Antonio road to, and about the falls, on



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both those rivers and that we have not neglected the intermediate country between them, but have examined it more particularly than a due regard to our personal safety did perfectly warrant. We found the Brassos River more central perhaps in reference to actual existing population, and found in it and its tributaries perhaps a greater quantity of fertile lands—than are to be found on the Colorado, but on the other hand we were of opinion that the Colorado was more central in respect to Territory, and this in connection with the great desideratums of health, fine water, stone coal, water power &c, being more abundant and convenient on the Colorado than on the Brassos river, did more than counterbalance the supposed superiority of the lands as well as the centrality of position in reference to population, possessed by the Brassos river.

In reference to the protection to be afforded to the frontier by the Location of the Seat of Government, a majority of the Commissioners are of opinion that that object will be as well attained by the location upon one river as upon the other, being also of opinion that within a very short period of time following the location of the Seat of Government on the Frontier, the extensions of the settlements produced thereby, will engender other theories of defence, on lands now the homes of the Comanche and the Bisson.

The site selected by the Commissioners is composed of five thirds of leagues of lands and two labors, all adjoining and having a front upon the Colorado river somewhat exceeding three miles in breadth. It contains seven thousand seven hundred and thirty five acres land and will cost the Republic the sum of Twenty one thousand dollars or thereabouts, one tract not being Surveyed. Nearly the whole front is a Bluff of from thirty to forty feet elevation, being the termination of a Prairie containing perhaps two thousand acres, composed of a chocolate colored sandy loam, intersected by two beautiful streams of permanent and pure water, one of which forms at its debouche into the river a timbered rye bottom of about thirty acres. These rivulets rise at an elevation of from Sixty to one hundred feet on the back part of the site or tract, by means of which the contemplated city might at comparatively small expense be well watered, in addition to which are several fine bluff springs of pure water on the river at convenient distances from each other.

The site is about two miles distant from and in full view of the Mountains or breaks of the Table Lands which, judging by the eye, are of about three hundred feet ele-

vation. They are of Limestone formation and are covered with Live Oak and Dwarf Cedar to their summits. On the site and its immediate vicinity, stone in inexhaustable quantites and great varieties is found almost fashioned by nature for the bulders hands; Lime and Stone coal abound in the vicinity, timber for firewood and ordinary building purposes abound on the tract, though the timber for building in the immediate neighborhood is not of so fine a character as might be wished, being mostly Cotton wood, Ash, Burr Oak, Huckberry, Post Oak and cedar, the last suitable for shingles and small frames.

At the distance of eighteen miles west by South from the site, on Onion Creek, "a stream affording fine water power" is a large body of very fine cyprus, which is also found at intervals up the River for a distance of forty miles, and together with immense quantities of fine cedar might readily be floated down the stream, as the falls two miles above the site present no obstruction to floats or rafts, being only a descent of about five feet in one hundred and fifty yards over a smooth bed of limestone formation very nearly resembling colored Marble. By this rout also immense quantities of Stone Coal, building materials, and in a few years Agricultural and Mineral products for the contemplated city, as no rapids save those mentioned occur in the River below the San Saba, nor are they known to exist for a great distance above the junction of that stream with the Colorado.

Opposite the site, at the distance of one mile, Spring Creek and its tributaries afford perhaps the greatest and most convenient waterpower to be found in the Republic. Walnut Creek distance six miles, and Brushy creek distance sixteen miles both on the east side of the river, afford very considerable water power. Extensive deposits of iron ore adjudged to be of very superior quality is found within eight miles of the location.

This section of the Country is generally well watered, fertile in a high degree and has every appearance of health and salubriety of climate. The site occupies and will effectually close the pass by which Indians and outlawed Mexicans have for ages past traveled east and west to and from the Rio Grande to eastern Texas, and will now force them to pass by the way of Pecan Bayou and San Saba above the Mountains and the sources of the Guadalupe river.

The Commissioners confidently anticipate the time when a great thoroughfare shall be established from Santa Fe to our Sea ports, and another from Red River to Matamoras, which two routs must almost of necessity in-

## *History of Travis County*

tersect each other at this point. They look forward to the time when this city shall be the emporium of not only the productions of the rich soil of the San Saba, Puertentalis Hono [Llano?] and Pecan Bayo, but of all the Colorado and Brassos, as also of the Produce of the rich mining country known to exist on these streams. They are satisfied that a truly National City could at no other point within the limits assigned them be reared up, not that other sections of the Counry [sic] are not equally fertile, but that no other combined so many and such varied advantages and beauties as the one in question. The imagination of even the romantic will not be disappointed on viewing the Valley of the Colorado, and the fertile and gracefully undulating woodlands and luxuriant Prairies at a distance from it. The most sceptical will not doubt its healthiness, and the citizens bosom must swell with honest pride when standing in the Portico of the Capitol of his Country he looks abroad upon a region worthy only of being the home of the brave and free. Standing on the juncture of the routs of Santa Fe and the Sea Coast, of Red River and Matamoras, looking with the same glance upon the green romantic Mountains, and the fertile and widely extended plains of his Country, can a feeling of Nationality fail to arise in his bosom or could the fire of patriotism lie dormant under such circumstances.

Fondly hoping that we may not have disappointed the expectations of either our Countrymen or your Excellency, we subscribe ourselves Your Excellency's Most obedient Servants.

A. C. Horton Chairman  
I. W. Burton  
William Menefee  
Isaac Campbell  
Louis P. Cooke

City of Houston, 15th Apl 1839<sup>10</sup>

In 1859, there must have been splendor and serenity in the county of Travis, despite the talk of secession, because it was during this year that a twenty-four-year old man came, and later wrote of Austin, the county seat:

Austin is pretty, built on more hills than Rome, and they are all picturesque. North of here is a wild, romantic country of cedar-covered hills and mountains: in other directions, a prairie that rolls in gigantic undulations.<sup>11</sup>



It was fitting that Frank Brown, who later preserved so much of the history in his *Annals of Travis County*, came to Austin for the first time just a few hours before it became the capital city of the state of Texas; in his writing he described his first view of Austin, on February 10, 1846:

About the hour of sunset, I first beheld the beautiful valley of the Colorado below the foot of the mountains, the blue hills to the northwest, and curling smoke from the humble log cabins and board dwellings of the few inhabitants, scattered at intervals along the lower Avenue, Pine and Pecan Streets.<sup>12</sup>

Brown and his family stayed that first night at the Thompson House of Francis Dieterich, on East Hickory Street. This hotel had been built by William W. Thompson in 1840, and its three stories contained over a dozen rooms.<sup>13</sup>

And it was a healthful place as William Kennedy, a Britisher, testified when he wrote that to "medical practitioners . . . Texas offers little encouragement as a field of professional speculation."<sup>14</sup> He advised northerners not accustomed to the sun to be careful about exposure at noontime, and says, ". . . nine-tenths of the Republic are considered healthier than the most healthy parts of the United States."<sup>15</sup> He wrote that when the commissioners were selecting a site for the capital, and ". . . visited Bastrop on the Colorado, they were, in proof of its salubrity, shown the grave-yard of the town, which had no more than eleven tenants, although the place had been settled above seven years, and comprised a population of several hundred souls."<sup>16</sup>

## INDIANS

In the 1830's when Travis County was in the settling stages, the pioneers followed the streams up to Central Texas. The Indians, too, had their paths through this country; in Travis County they used the crossing of the Colorado at Shoal Creek into the hill country to the west. There are those in the area today who have climbed around Mount Bonnell on the path the Indians filed along around this hill.

Settlement of Travis County brought the pioneers into In-

## *History of Travis County*

dian country, north of the San Antonio road crossing, which was then at Bastrop. The Comanches ranged the western edge of the settled country, while the Tonkawas and Lipan Apaches also roamed the area. In the middle and late 1830's, Bastrop County, which then included the Travis County section, was often in the path of the pillaging Comanches.<sup>17</sup>

Until Texas was annexed to the United States, the problem of Indians was the worry of the Republic. In the administration of the affairs of the Republic of Texas, Sam Houston as President proved to be a pacifist with the Indians, while Mirabeau B. Lamar was firmer in his dealings with them. In 1840, at a council meeting in San Antonio, there was a fight, with Comanches killed. The Indians' answer was the burning of Linnville. The settlers already in the Travis County area joined a volunteer group and met these Indians returning from Linnville, and defeated them at Plum Creek, near Lockhart, which was then in the Travis County area.<sup>18</sup>

In 1839 the Comanches were feuding with the Lipans and Tonkawas, who were allies, and much of their feuding was done in the Travis County locale along the Colorado River. Often the Cherokees passed this way too, until they were later expelled beyond the Red River.

There were many incidents with the Indians in Travis County, and the most publicized in stories has been the scalping of Josiah Wilbarger, who became one of the few men to live after being scalped. He had settled at Wilbarger's Bend in the early 1830's, and with Reuben Hornsby and some of his neighbors, was on a scouting and surveying expedition in the eastern part of Travis County. Every school child knows the story of the Indians' attack on this group, Wilbarger being scalped and left for dead, and living several years after that. A marker to his memory has been erected at the spot, which is located near the old Manor Road as it is presently called.

The various cemeteries in the county are mute testimony of the men who were killed by the Indians during those first days of Travis County's settlement.

In the spring of 1836, John Rohrer came up to Travis County to move one of his friends and stopped at the home of Thomas Moore. Rohrer was killed by the Indians, who then raided and robbed the place of Nathaniel Moore, who was away.<sup>19</sup>

In a raid in early 1839, when the wife and children of Captain Robert M. Coleman were killed or captured while in the garden between Coleman Branch and the river, the men who followed the Indians and fought them also had casualties, one of whom was Captain Jacob Burleson.<sup>20</sup> His brothers, Edward, John, Johnathan, and Aaron, and his brother-in-law, James Rogers, were also in this fight.

The monument at the site of old Fort Coleman reads, “. . . an extreme frontier outpost occupied by Texas Rangers, to protect Anglo-American civilization from savage Indians in this vicinity.”

When James W. Smith, first county judge in Travis County, built his double log cabin for his family on the north side of West Pecan Street between Nueces and San Antonio Streets, he could not know he would be scalped by the Indians in 1841. He was building his home within the area prescribed because then there was an unwritten understanding that the settlers did not venture west of the old Treaty Oak which stands back of the Coca-Cola Company on West Sixth Street, then called Pecan Street. A picture of this tree hangs in the Hall of Fame of Forestry in Washington, D. C.

Although the pioneers packed their pistols with them even when they plowed and while they worshipped, often the Indians surprised them, and so it was with Smith. His body was found with arrows in it, and without his scalp. He had gone over to the western side of Shoal Creek to corral his cattle, where he was attacked and his son captured.<sup>21</sup>

Luckier than Smith was “Dutch” John Wahrenberger from Switzerland, one of the first comers, who had a bakery in Austin. In the fall of 1841 he was working as gardener for Louis T. Cooke, Secretary of the Navy, and while away at the mill at the edge of town for meal, was attacked near the present site of the governor’s mansion, but he escaped.<sup>22</sup>

One wonders if Houston really made the controversial comment, “In less than three years, if I am elected, the streets of Austin shall again become the feeding place for buffalo and the hunting ground of red men.”<sup>23</sup> During that same summer of 1841, he is credited with saying also, that if elected, he would remove the archives and “would not risk his scalp up in that d - - - - hole called Austin.”<sup>24</sup>



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There were tense times in the county in 1842. The Indians were irritating and troublesome; summer saw several residents killed by them. Mrs. Simpson, who lived three blocks out on West Pecan Street (Sixth Street), in Austin, was ambushed and her child killed; Thomas Shuff was killed that spring while corraling his cows near Barton's; Gideon White from Alabama lost his life likewise out at his cabin at Seider's Springs; Judge Jayne, who lived near the present site of the State Hospital, was killed near the present University area, and buried near the west gate of the Lewis Hancock place on Red River Street.<sup>25</sup> The newspapers of the day had such incidents listed frequently. Big Foot Wallace's companion, a man named Fox, was killed while working in his garden.<sup>26</sup>

During the summers settlers spent much time at the swimming spots, especially at the shoals in the river about where the railroad bridge is located near Lamar Boulevard. Most of them stayed where it was safe, but two of them, John R. Black and George M. Dolson of Ohio, ventured on horseback out to Barton's. The other swimmers at the shoals watched them going along the south side of the river to Barton Creek, and later buried them after they were attacked and killed by the Indians. They are in the same grave in Oakwood Cemetery just one hundred yards to the right of the entrance. Their marker bears the date August 1, 1842.<sup>27</sup>

In 1843, the Caddo Indians were engaged in a fight while stealing horses at Moore's Prairie. On January 1, 1843, Captain Coleman and William Bell were attacked by Indians as they rode out of Austin east on Pine Street, now Fifth Street, and crossed Waller Creek. Upon the higher level of the road, on Robertson Hill, about Bois d'Arc Street, now Seventh Street, Joseph Hornsby and James Edmonson, on their way back to Hornsby Bend, saw the attack. They raced after the Indians along the eastern edge of Austin until they crossed Waller Creek and headed west. Bell had been killed at the site of the attack.<sup>28</sup> In 1844, James Manor and Frank Nash had trouble with Indians stealing horses at the store near Webberville.

In June, 1845, young Daniel Hornsby, son of Reuben Hornsby, and William Adkinson were surprised and scalped as they fished in the Colorado River.<sup>29</sup>

In Austin, while the city was being constructed in 1839, the

men toiled with the threat of Indians, and in a raid on their camp on Waller Creek one night two men were scalped.<sup>30</sup> These men were buried on the far side of Waller Creek, between Ninth and Tenth Streets, near Sabine, starting the city's first cemetery, near where a branch ran down from Robertson Hill into Waller Creek.

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One of the first graves at Oakwood Cemetery in the fall of 1839 is reputedly that of Hamilton White's small Negro helper who was engaged in White's service in freighting pine lumber from Bastrop to the new town of Austin. Like other travelers, he stopped for the night at Hornsby's fort, and the next day, when he started toward Austin, he was attacked by the Indians and killed near Walnut Creek.<sup>31</sup> His is the oldest grave at Oakwood, and old-timers claim that he was attacked and robbed of \$300 near Montopolis, and that it might not have been Indians who committed the crime.

Indian stories were current, and Captain Nelson Merrill, who was the first settler in the northern part of Travis County, often had experiences from out his way to relate. Merrill built his log cabin at the springs near Merriltown situated about twelve miles north of Austin.

Lamar must have known from Thomas J. Chambers, who surveyed the Travis County area in 1835, of the Indians in the section.

Jacob Harrell also must have told of the experience of Sarah Hibbins in January, 1836, who was captured by the Indians and escaped from them and their camp near Austin by wading down Shoal Creek to the river, and to the home of Harrell, who helped her to Hornsby's where Tumlinson's rangers took up the chase and recovered her child.<sup>32</sup>

From Reuben Hornsby, they must have learned of the recurring raids, in one of which the Indians killed two men who were hoeing his cornfield. There was the killing of Captain Joseph Rogers, who was attacked about ten miles north of Bastrop on the Colorado River in late 1837, while on his way home from Fort Prairie, where he had gone with two other settlers to obtain ammunition for neighbors. His son, Joseph, later lived on Onion Creek.<sup>33</sup>

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But they learned too that not all the Indians were bad; down at Webber's, Chiefs Castro and Flacco of the Lipans often stopped by for a chat with storekeeper Smithwick, as did Chief Placedo of the Tonkaways.<sup>34</sup>



### CHAPTER III

## *Austin, County Seat and Capital City as it was in 1839*

An Act of the Texas Congress of January 14, 1839, which provided for the selection of the site for the capital, also provided that an agent be appointed to lay out the town, with the most valuable lots to be set aside for the capitol and state buildings and the remainder, not more than half, to be sold at public auction within ninety days after publication of the time and place of sale, and that the name of the capital city should be Austin.

President Lamar appointed Judge Edwin Waller, a Virginian, and a veteran of the fight for Texas freedom, as agent to divide 640 acres of land into lots. The bond of Waller for \$100,000 was executed on April 12, 1839.<sup>1</sup> To Judge Waller goes the credit for the outlining and laying out of Austin, between Shoal and Waller Creeks, with a wide avenue, and streets sectioned in a square. When he and surveyor William H. Sandusky arrived in Austin in May, 1839, they had about two hundred workmen, raw recruits of every race, mostly inexperienced, with inadequate implements, and funds amounting to about \$113,000 in Texas scrip.<sup>2</sup>

Waller set up camps for the construction crews on Waller Creek and at Durham's spring, near present Sixth and Nueces Streets, and Sandusky surveyed an area about a mile square, laying it out in lots, setting aside the preferable places for the capitol, the president's house, arsenal, churches, hospital, magazine, penitentiary, schools and university. These are all shown with original locations on his map.

The workmen toiled with the threat of Indians, who raided their camp on Waller Creek one night and scalped two of the men.<sup>3</sup> The Mexicans, also, were a threat; there was alarm

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when Juan Flores and his followers were in the Austin area, crossing the Colorado, and on May 18, 1839, the rangers defeated them at the North San Gabriel. But they laid out their town, these men of courage, and its main street, later Congress Avenue, meandered down the small valley.

On May 23, 1839, Judge Edwin Waller wrote to President Lamar:

The river bank is bluff, from whence a level prairie affording excellent ground for building lots, extends back about two-thirds of a mile, where it rises into hills, most of them covered with timber, which offers desirable situations for the public buildings, private residences [and in this letter he mentions] placing the public square in the rear of the centre instead of the centre of the city.<sup>4</sup>

Again, on May 30, 1839, Judge Waller wrote to Lamar in Houston:

I fear that the arrangements allowing those persons who may improve lots before the sale to have them at that time at the average price for which lots similarly situated sell, will not answer, as they are selecting the best lots and putting up pole shantees, &.

In this manner all of the most eligible lots upon Main Street will be taken up.

Although I find I have to encounter many difficulties and Labour under many disadvantages I am confident of being able to complete the desired works in time.<sup>5</sup>

There must have been misgivings about Montopolis, because on June 2, 1839, Waller wrote to Lamar:

I have just received your favour of the 25th . . . and discussed map making by Mr. Pilie and Mr. Sandusky.

The location I have selected does not conflict with the town below as you fear. I had been advised to place it below, but chose the present site which gives a distance between our lower line and the upper line of the other town of at least two miles. This selection of mine has been highly approved by all who have seen it and I doubt not will give universal satisfaction.

The public buildings shall be in readiness in time

for the next Congress. I have two 16 feet square rooms up now and the rest in progress, therefore entertain no fears upon that score.

I shall keep a regular set of books that I may be able to show at any moment the exact state of the business, all receipts and expenditures.<sup>6</sup>

On June 10, 1839, Edward Burleson wrote to Lamar from Bastrop:

I have several tryals to precure by perchease a Good trace of Land for you near the site of Government. I have maide an agreement with Capt. Sims for a tract that you will be pleased with I have no doubt from five hundred to one thousand Acres as you like its about four Miles from the Capitol however the Contract is not binding on my parts unless I shose I have to Give more than I, Expected I would have to do when I Saw you at Houston his price is five dollars per acre and Garentees a Good title that is in Good Mony or double that amount in the promisary Notes of the Government he will Not Require more than one half in hand and will give Good time on the balance I Can only Assure you that it is a first Rate tract of Land and leave it with you whether it is too much or not and with answer as Early as possible so he will keep the Land till I hare from you. Your Friend and Servant, Edw. Burleson.

ps Judge Waller is Getting on finely and I think will be fuly Reddy for the Reception of Congress.<sup>7</sup>

On July 11, 1839, Edwin Waller wrote to Lamar:

Since my return the erection of the public buildings has rapidly progressed. I shall have completed in a few days twenty eight rooms for offices, the frame for your house is up and being inclosed and it will without doubt be completed according to contract the 15th. of August.

I have all the timbers got out for the Capitol and shall raise it in a short time.

I have to pay very high for hands and every article that I purchase owing to the depreciation of our currency, it being reported here that our money it only worth twenty two cents on the dollars consequently have had to raise the wages for hands &c. . . . Considering it highly important that



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the streets should be named before the sales I hope that you will name them and would suggest the propriety of naming the streets running up from the river after the different rivers in our Republic, commencing at the Sabine naming the principal street running up to Capitol square COLORADO AVENUE, and the cross streets, 1st, and &c.<sup>8</sup>

Four days later, on July 15, 1839, Waller wrote to Lamar:

In addition to reasons stated in my letter of the 11 Inst. I have contracted for the building of another house, to consist of six rooms, leaves me scarce of money. I shall need Fifteen Thousand dollars for present uses.

Please write me how many houses you think will be necessary for public offices.

The Citizens of Austin are anxious to know when you will be here, as they are anxious to show you as much respect, as their circumstances will admit of.<sup>9</sup>

Austin had its first sale of lots on August 1, 1839, with Sheriff Charles King of Bastrop, acting as auctioneer.<sup>10</sup> The site of the auction can be located on the map of original Austin, between blocks 45 and 46, and Pine and Cedar Streets; it is presently the parking block north of the American-Statesman building at 308 Guadalupe. The crowd collected on the north side of this square, under the trees near the welcome water at George Durham's spring near Nueces and Sixth Streets.<sup>11</sup> The sale was a success as 301 lots sold. The total money tallied that day was \$182,585, which practically paid for the government buildings. Lots ranged in price from \$120 to \$2700, with lot 6, block 55, at Sixth and Congress reputedly selling to Alexander Russell for \$2,800.<sup>12</sup>

Some of the settlers were "sooners." They simply set up their cabins on the lot of their choice in the hope that they would be able to bid in the lot on which their homes were built.

Surveyor Pilie, about whom Waller wrote to Lamar on June 2, is mentioned in a letter of August 13, 1839, from J. B. Ransom of the Executive Department at Houston, to Lamar, then in Galveston:

I have just seen Col. Cook from Austin, he visits the

Island in a day or two to see you, on informing him of your instructions to have the Archives &c. sent up on the 1st. Sept. he suggested the propriety of deferring their removal until about the 15 or 20 as by that period the buildings will be in a greater state of readiness, & may probably not be so sooner . . .

All appear well pleased with the new City especially the editor of the *Picayune* who bought several lots. No news except that Pilie the Creole Surveyor, stole \$3500 of Doswell, which was found on him, when he was tried by a volunteer jury—Whiting foreman, convicted, tied to the Liberty Pole, flogd, & sent adrift.<sup>13</sup>

Lamar's plan to transfer the government of the Republic of Texas to Austin was mentioned in a letter he wrote to T. J. Green of Velasco, declining an invitation of their citizens to a dinner:

. . . the law requiring the removal of offices and archives of the government from this place to the City of Austin by the first of October . . .<sup>14</sup>

Surveyor Sandusky's enthusiasm about the new capital city was reflected in a letter he wrote to H. J. Jewett in August, 1839:

I have just returned from the city of Austin, and being aware of the various reports as to its advantages, I feel it my duty to give to the Public a true statement of its location.

Austin is situated on the east bank of the Colorado, 40 miles from Bastrop—and about three miles from the Colorado mountains and on a beautiful rich prairie about 40 feet above the level of the River extending back one half mile to the "Bluff" and gradually rising to 60, or 70, feet, where is placed the Public Square (15 acres), with an avenue rising up from the river—of 120 feet wide, through a narrow valley which appears as if made by nature expressly for this noble purpose. The Lots are layd, streets and alleys wide, and the several public squares, and lots for the Government Buildings, selected with good taste, by the Agent Judge Waller, who is now engaged in putting up the necessary buildings for Congress, &c. Two beautiful streams of limestone water flow through the upper and lower parts of the town, taking their source in the hills from Springs which can by little expense be conducted to any part of the city. Stone for building purposes of various can be had in and near the city. Timber for build-

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ing is rather scarce in the immediate vicinity (except on the opposite side of the river) but within six or eight miles there is an abundance. The river averages from 60 to 70 yards wide of a deep but rapid current, and can be made navigable by removing a few shoals, for Steam Boats of medium size, to the falls five miles above the town.

The Colorado mountains about 3 miles Nr. West, from College Hill (in the rear of the town) are covered with Scrubby Live Oak, Cedar, and cliffs of rock, which present a delightful appearance.

Large fields of corn are growing in the vicinity, sufficient for the consumption of emigration this season. The country is settling very fast, and families with their Negroes are daily seen on the way to the "City of Austin" and the surrounding country.<sup>15</sup>

On October 3, 1839, Austin's Citizen Committee issued an invitation to President Lamar at Bastrop, for the public dinner on Tuesday, October 8, in his honor, and an escort into the city, with a reception to follow.<sup>16</sup> It took about fifty wagons to transport the archives to the capital city of Austin, and on October 17, 1839, President Lamar came with his cabinet. General Albert Sidney Johnston, Secretary of War, was here in advance of the government group, and he and General Edward Burleson arranged for a welcoming delegation to meet Lamar's party at the edge of Austin.

It was a dramatic day for Waller, who was responsible for the readying of the city, and for Lamar, who was in part responsible for the location of the capital here. An account of the arrival of President Lamar and his cabinet was published in the initial issue of the first newspaper in Travis County, the *Austin City Gazette*, by Sam Whiting, October 30, 1839:

In accordance with previous arrangements such of the citizens as were able to procure horses assembled at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 17th, for the purpose of escorting his Excellency, the President, into town. The Hon. E. Waller was appointed Orator, and Capt. Lynch and Mr. Alex. Russell were appointed Marshalls for the day. Col. E. Burleson, at the special request of his fellow-citizens, took command of the whole. All arrangements being completed, the cavalcade moved forward in the following order:

Col. E. Burleson — General A. S. Johnston  
The Marshalls.



*Austin as It Was in 1839*

Citizen                      Standard                      Citizen  
(Bearing the motto on one side,  
"Hail to our Chief" on the re-  
verse, "With this we live" Star  
"Or Die Defending"  
Orator of the Day  
Trumpeter  
Citizens 2 and 2

After proceeding about two miles beyond the city boundary, they met his Excellency, accompanied by the Hon. L. P. Cook, Major Sturges, J. Moreland, Esquire, Private Secretary and others. By a military movement, Col. Burleson reversed the order of march so as to place the marshalls, standard bearer, and orator, in the rear of the company. He then halted his command and drew them up in two parallel lines. As General Lamar passed down between the lines, the Orator of the day, supported by the Marshalls, and followed by the Standard Bearer, moved up and met his Excellency about the center. The Hon. E. Waller, having introduced the President to the citizens there present, addressed him in the following language:

"Having been called upon, by my fellow-citizens, to welcome your Excellency on your arrival at the permanent seat of government for the Republic, I should have declined doing so on account of conscious inability, wholly unused as I am to public speaking, had I not felt that holding the situation here that I do, it was my duty to obey their call. With pleasure I introduce you to the Citizens of Austin, and, at their request, give you cordial welcome to a place which owes its existence, as a city, to the policy of your administration.

"Under your appointment, and in accordance with your direction, I came here in the month of May last, for the purpose of preparing proper accommodations for the transaction of the business of the Government. I found a situation naturally most beautiful, but requiring much exertion to render it available for the purposes intended by its location. Building materials and provisions were to be procured when both were scarce; a large number of workmen were to be engaged in the low country, and brought up in the heat of summer, during the season when fever is rife, and when here, our labors were liable every moment to be interrupted by the hostile Indians, for whom we were obliged to be constantly on the watch; 'many-tongued Humor' was busy with tales of Indian depredations, which seemed to increase, in geometrical progression, to her progress through the country. Many who were on the eve of migrating were deterred by these

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rumors from doing so. Interested and malicious parties were busy in detracting from the natural merits of the place, and every engine of falsehood has been called into requisition to prevent its occupation for governmental purposes. Beauty of scenery, centrality of location, and purity of atmosphere, have been nothing in the vision of those whose views were governed by their purses; and whose ideas of fitness were entirely subservient to their desire for profit.

"Under all these disadvantageous circumstances, and more which I can not now detail, a capitol, a house for the chief magistrate of the republic and a large number of public offices, were to be erected and in readiness for use in the short space of four months.

"Not discouraged at the unpromising aspect of affairs, I cheerfully undertook to obey your behests. Numbers of the present citizens of Austin soon emigrated hither; and with an alacrity and spirit of accomodation for which they have my grateful remembrance, rendered us every assistance in their power.

"To the utmost extent of my abilities, I have exerted myself, and have succeeded in preparing such accomodations as, I sincerely hope, will prove satisfactory to your Excellency, and my fellow-citizens of Texas.

"In the name of the citizens of Austin, I cordially welcome you and your cabinet to the new metropolis; under your fostering care may it flourish; and aided by its salubrity of climate, and its beauty of situation, become famous among the cities of the new world."

His Excellency the President replied in a short but pithy and appropriate speech, and after the cheering had somewhat subsided, the company was again put in motion, the march being directed homeward. As soon as his Excellency crossed the city line, a salute of twenty-one guns was fired from a six-pounder, under the superintendence of Major T. W. Ward. On reaching Mr. Bullock's hotel, where a sumptuous dinner was prepared for the occasion, a large concourse of citizens who had been unable, for want of horses or harness, to join in the cavalcade, stood ready to tender every mark of respect in their power, to the chief magistrate of the Republic.

### The dinner

James Burke, Esq., served as President; Dr. R. F. Brenham, Vice-President. Among the guests who were present we observed his Excellency the President, Col. E. Burleson, Hon. L. P. Cook, Secretary of the Navy; Gen. A. S. Johnston, Secretary of War; Hon. J. H. Starr, Secre-

tary of the Treasury; A. Brigham, Esq., Treasurer; Col. W. G. Cook, Col. J. Snively, Major Sturges, J. Moreland, Esq., C. Mason, Esq., M. Evans, Esq., Col. Johnson, Col. T. W. Ward and others.

The company took their seats at table at 3 o'clock. The dinner provided under the immediate superintendence of Mrs. Bullock, reflected great credit on that lady's taste and superior judgment, displayed in the arrangement of the table, and in the delicacies which graced the festive board. After the cloth was removed, the President of the day requested the attention of the company to a toast "which he felt assured would meet with the cordial approbation of every person whom he had the honor of addressing." He then gave as the 1st Regular Toast. Our Guest, Mirabeau B. Lamar, President of the Republic of Texas:—His valor in the field of battle signally contributed to the achievement of Texian independence—his wisdom as a statesman has given vigor and firmness to our government, and elevated its character abroad—his lofty patriotism and distinguished public services command the admiration and gratitude of his fellow citizens.

Which was drank with the utmost enthusiasm. As soon as the cheering had somewhat subsided, his Excellency made a truly eloquent reply, which, we are sorry, it is not in our power to give entire, or even in part. He concluded by requesting the company to join in the following toast, which was heartily responded to by all present:

"The worthy founder of our new seat of government, Judge Waller:—By a touch of his industry there has sprung up, like the work of magic, a beautiful city, whose glory is destined, in a few years, to overshadow the ancient magnificence of Mexico."

The presiding officers then gave the regular toasts:

Our country:—The star of her destiny has emerged from the clouds that obscured it, and is now fixed in the political firmament; may its luster continue undimmed by foreign aggression or domestic dissension.

The Constitution and the Laws:—The vital spirit of the body politic: Whilst they are maintained pure and uncontaminated by political corruption, liberty and justice here have an abiding place.

The United States:—Their history for the last 63 years has disproved the false doctrine of tyrants, and show to the world that man is capable of self-government.

The Hon. David G. Burnet, Vice-President of Texas:—The history of his country is his best eulogy; he has "done the state some service and they know it"—we can say to him in the spirit of truth and justice, and in the voice of



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the whole people of Texas, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

The memory of Stephen F. Austin:—Whatever may be the pretensions of others to the paternity of Texas, we recognize him alone as the "Father of this Republic."

Education:—the safeguard of republican institutions:—It should be sustained and cherished by every friend of civil liberty.

The Press:—May it be conducted in the spirit of disinterested patriotism, as the honest echo of the public sentiment, and never be polluted by the poisonous influence of party.

Col. E. Burleson:—His valor in the field is only equalled by his virtues in private life. In the history of his country, he will rank as the Sumter of the West.

The memory of Col. Benjamin Milam:—The Bayard of Texas:—A more gallant spirit never sprung from the "dark and blood ground" of Kentucky, to battle in the cause of human liberty; as long as honor, patriotism, and valor are appreciated by his countrymen, he will be gratefully remembered as the Hero of the West.

After various other toasts, his Excellency rose from the table about 8 p. m., and the company soon after dispersed, all apparently highly pleased with the entertainment of the day.

When Lamar and his cabinet surveyed the new capital city of Austin the next day, they saw it as it was then, in 1839. In the original survey of the city by William H. Sandusky, the town, one mile square, had fourteen blocks from Water Street to North Avenue, and fourteen blocks from East Avenue to West Avenue (See map of original city).

The streets were eighty feet wide, except Congress Avenue, 120 feet; College Avenue, 120 feet; North Avenue, 100 feet; West Avenue, 200 feet, and East Avenue, 200 feet. Streets running north and south were named for the rivers of the Republic of Texas, and still are known by these names; those running east and west were named for typical Texas trees, except First Street of today, which was Water Avenue; Twelfth Street which was College Avenue; and Fifteenth Street which was North Avenue. These tree-named streets since have been changed to numbers: Live Oak Street is now Second Street; Cypress is Third Street; Cedar is Fourth Street; Pine is Fifth Street; Pecan is Sixth Street; Bois d' Arc is Seventh Street; Hickory is Eighth Street; Ash is Ninth Street; Mulberry is Tenth Street; Mesquite is Elev-

enth Street; College Avenue has become Twelfth Street; Peach is Thirteenth Street; Walnut is Fourteenth Street; North Avenue has become Fifteenth Street; Cherry is Sixteenth Street; Linden is Seventeenth Street; Chestnut is Eighteenth Street; Magnolia is Nineteenth Street. Below Water, or First Street, there was Willow Street, and also River Walk, which was a short street from Brazos to near Waller Creek, along the banks of the Colorado River.

In the original plan, there was no public square in the center of the city, but there were four squares, with one square set in the center of each fourth of the town. The capitol square covered four blocks between Mesquite and Peach Streets, between Brazos and Colorado, and contained eight acres. All of the half blocks facing this square were to be sites for the state departments, but presently they are part of the capitol, except the two on Congress Avenue, and thus the capitol property has been increased to twelve acres. But in 1839, the first capitol was not on this location.

The University of Texas is on the site set aside for College Hill, and the term Forty Acres grew out of the land marked for it.

The hospital site was in the northeast corner of the town's boundaries and the city's hospital was built there as planned, at the corner of East Fifteenth and East Avenue.

The business of Austin, in 1839, was carried on mainly in log houses, often double ones, built quickly to serve as offices or houses for the officials. On the original map of Austin, one can locate the lots and blocks listed here, and see the city as it was then.

Between Pine and Pecan Streets, on the west side of the Avenue, Lot 4, Block 55, was a popular place because it was the pay office, the Treasury Department, which was at this location until 1853 when George Hancock bought the site from the State of Texas. In those first days, the Treasury Department had offices there in a one-story, frame house, set back from the Avenue about fifteen feet, and this front yard was a popular place.<sup>17</sup> Set on about sixty feet of ground, this was a long building, running from east to west, with a wide, long hall dividing the Comptroller's office at one end, from the Auditor and Treasury offices at the other. Here were handled money matters of the new

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nation of Texas; executives of the Republic, and later State, and rangers, and workmen, all pocketed the old redbacks or star money of those early days, as they picked up their pay here.

At the present Scarbrough corner, at Congress and Sixth Street, was Russell's, and later, Hancock's store, and Judge John Hemphill built his small house near the store. Across the street, the Supreme Court met in a building at the northwest corner of block 56, on the east side of the avenue.

Then there was Congress Avenue between Pecan and Bois d'Arc Streets, as it was then. At one time or another, everyone in the city showed up at the Bullock house "kept by Mrs. Eberly."<sup>18</sup> Mrs. Angelina Eberly had her house, a log house for the first floor, and a second story of cottonwood planks,<sup>19</sup> on Lots 1, 2, and 3, in Block 71, back of Bullock's, which was built in 1839 on the southeast corner of Block 70, back near the alley. Bullock built little log guest cabins around his place, where visitors stopped; there was one particular cabin on the Avenue that Sam Houston stayed in, and the dining room was set up higher, on cedar posts. In the center of the cabins, on the north side, was a room for the china, and for the first piano in Austin.<sup>20</sup>

Mrs. Eberly, who moved here from Bastrop in 1839, was famed for the food she served, and her first success was the dinner she served at three o'clock on October 17, 1839, for President Lamar and his cabinet; during her days in Austin she served suppers at most of the celebrations.

The Bullock house was one of Austin's most historic ones; it was called the Carrollton place later, then Swisher's in 1852, and Smith's in 1858. It later knew secession meetings and much of Austin's history. The loafer's log in front was a popular meeting place. In the same block with Bullock's, fronting on the Avenue, there were three double log cabins built for executive offices.

Next, if one were seeing Austin as it was in 1839, he would walk along the block between Bois d'Arc and Hickory Streets. On the west side of the Avenue, there were log houses for Louis P. Cook, Secretary of the Navy, at Lot 1, in Block 83; Judge David G. Burnet, Vice President, lived on Lot 3, and the State Department was on Lot 6, where Judge Abner S. Lipscomb, Secretary of State, served; most of these buildings were set back from the Avenue. Back of them, on Lot 11, was the executive



## *Austin as It Was in 1839*

office of President Lamar, and next to it on Lot 12, was Attorney General James Webb.

Across the street on the east side of the Avenue, in Block 84, the Auditor's office was on Lot 1, the War Department on Lot 3, and offices of Albert Sidney Johnston, Secretary of War, and the Adjutant General on Lot 6, all serving in their double log houses.

On Block 97, between Hickory and Ash Streets, on the east side of the Avenue, the quartermaster served at Lot 1.<sup>21</sup>

Also, near the southwest corner of this block, a double log house with hall was built, set back the usual fifteen feet from the Avenue, and here were the executive offices of President Lamar, Houston, Anson Jones, and Governors Henderson, Wood, Bell, and Pease, until about 1855. Many prominent people brought business to these offices, among them Minister de Saligny of France.

On the opposite corner, diagonally across, was a double log cabin for the Land Commissioner. It was a story and half. In back of this was the Land Office, facing Hickory Street, and consisting of two rooms with hall between them, and an attic above. The land office, for a time, was back of the executive office, and the executive office, too, was at the corner of Hickory and the Avenue.

Only a few went higher on the Avenue, or lower, than this area. Judge Edwin Waller was one who built his home up the Avenue on Lot 6, Block 110, at the corner of Mulberry Street and the Avenue, the present drug store location. L. P. Cook went up even farther to Lot 1, Block 124, on the west side of the Avenue also.

At the lower end of the Avenue, the Texas Land Office, for a time, was located between Cedar and Pine Streets, near the Avenue, on Lot 7, Block 43. The Postmaster was at Lot 6, Block 19, the Comptroller of Revenue at Lot 1, Block 40, and the Stock Commissioner at Lot 9, Block 41.

Out on Waller Creek, on the road the travelers took into town, there was a stable and stockade for the horses belonging to the Republic of Texas.<sup>22</sup>

Building materials had been brought from Bastrop's pine forest, and from oak groves north of the new city. Many who built the double log houses, with the popular passage between them, could expand them later and construct a kitchen at the

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back. Logs were hauled and hewed; and several of the original log houses are seen today, with the logs notched and fitted together, or fastened with wooden pegs.

Of all who came to the city, there was no more colorful character than Big Foot Wallace, who was busy about many things, "Saloon-keeper Savary paid him \$12 a foot to dig a well."<sup>23</sup>

Austin's two main streets, practically the only ones, were Congress Avenue and Pecan Street, and when President Lamar and his cabinet arrived, one of the first sights they saw up on the hill north of Pecan Street was the President's house, the White House. It covered Lots 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10, on Block 85, the block bounded by Bois d'Arc, Brazos, Hickory, and San Jacinto Streets, on the site known later to generations of Austinites as St. Mary's Academy.

The building brigade had gone to work on this house when they came here, and it was set high on its hill, a two-story, white, frame house, built of Bastrop pine, facing south. From its porches could be seen a grove of oak trees down to the river, with small slave cabins set here and there on its grounds. The first flagpole for it was fashioned out of a simple sapling, and set up at the center of the housetop, flying the flag of the Republic of Texas.

Only two presidents were to live at this location, Lamar and Houston, and it knew many gala groups in its day. On August 13, 1841, Lamar had a "levee" at the mansion on that summer evening, and there was much merriment and mirth.<sup>24</sup> This mansion burned in 1847, while Captain Joseph Daniel was living there.

The capitol was on another hill, a couple of blocks west of the mansion. This two-room, log house, 100 x 60 feet, was set on Lots 9, 10, and 11, of Block 98. It faced southeast, toward the mansion; the Senate room was on the north side of the building, and the House on the south side,—there was a porch on the southeast.

While this building was under construction during 1839, to be ready for the executives in October, the many who had come to Austin.—adventurers, builders, Comanches, farmers, freighters, gamblers, laborers, teamsters—all had watched and wondered if the government would really come to Austin, because

when the *Morning Star* of June 20, 1839, reached here, it carried the comment, "The prevailing opinion is that the members will assemble there and adjourn to this place."

When the government got to Austin, only two of the new buildings had been painted, the capitol and the white house, both whitewashed to glisten and gleam and greet comers to the capital city.

By 1840, other buildings were painted, and a stockade was built around the capitol, of ten-foot logs, with a ditch five feet wide and three feet deep around it, suggesting safety from Indian attacks.

And while they did have Indian attacks, and other hazards, they had hope in their hearts and faith in the frontier outpost they founded in Travis County and Austin. General Albert Sidney Johnston expressed it well, when he came with Lamar's cabinet to Austin, and said, "I believe the foundation of this town has no precedent in history. The government placed itself on a frontier open to its foes, and face there the centre of its future dominion."<sup>25</sup>



## CHAPTER IV

# *Austin, County Seat and Capital City during the Republic of Texas*

1839 - 1846

After the government group arrived in Austin on October 17, 1839, and the speeches and celebrating were over, business began. On October 19, 1839, Lamar requested payment by Secretary of the Treasury James H. Starr to Land Commissioner John P. Borden for bringing the archives to Austin. Borden was paid \$21,355 on December 21.<sup>1</sup> Auctioneer James H. Doswell asked a fixed fee of 1% of the sales for auctioning lots.<sup>2</sup> On November 1, 1839, there was a second sale of lots for later comers.

November was notable for the session of the Fourth Congress, the first to be held in the capital city. Just before the lawmakers arrived, J. W. Hann opened his Austin City Restaurant up on Capitol Hill, as the area around the capitol at Hickory and Colorado Streets was called, and the solons and settlers were served buffalo meat, chicken, turkey, and venison.

There were congratulatory comments on the new capital city, and the Congress adopted as the official Texas flag the one made by Joanna Troutman and carried by the Georgia group in the fight for Texas' freedom. The legislators set aside three leagues of land in each county for educational purposes, and fifty leagues of land for two universities, thus setting the stage for a school system. And there was the recurring question of relocating the seat of government, with Sam Houston asking again for a vote of the people.

It is true that when men like Lamar and Waller attempt a venture, or adventure, such as the starting of a city, they

## *Austin During the Republic of Texas*

attract to the cause men of a high caliber. In the new capital city before that first year ended, there were such men who remained and whose names are read in the history of the city and county.

Michael Ziller was one of these. He came from Germany, and was one of the city's busiest business men. In those first days he had his traps baited and set, and did a profitable pelt business. The deer and buffalo hides encouraged the starting of shops by shoemakers and saddlers. Also there was timber to take for the makers of chairs and carriages.<sup>3</sup>

Some of these men were professional freighters like J. W. Darlington. Others acted as land agents, beside their other businesses; James Burke who dealt in land brought a substantial library to Austin by 1839. Samuel Whiting was a land agent and the local newspaper publisher.

The first store seems to have been started by Alexander Russell on that expensive lot he bought at the first sale. Today this is the Scarbrough corner, where once again, a century and a score of years later, trees grow on the Avenue. Russell set up his stock in a two-story frame building there, with about 80 feet of frontage on Pecan Street, at a place known as Russell's corner.

Later this was sold to George Hancock and Morgan Hamilton, at whose general store dry goods were sold on one side and groceries and whiskey on the other until about the time of the Civil War.

Francis Dieterich and Louis Horst owned and operated Austin's first meat market across the street to the east, and Dieterich later became a partner of George Hancock's at the store. Dutch John Wahrenberger, a safety-minded merchant, built his bakery across the street from Hancock's on the east side of the Avenue, erecting a stockade around it. Another baker was A. Savary from Massachusetts, one of the first here in his log cabin.

Louis Horst, with a meat market, settled on a spot out on Waller Creek in 1839, constructing his log cabin on the town side of the creek; he stayed there until about 1854. In the building era of the fifties, he constructed a stone two-story house up above Twenty-first Street. But he had competition down the way, because Jacob Harrell, who knew the Travis

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County area better than anyone, set up a shop with Francis Dieterich about Twelfth Street on Waller Creek. They also supplied meat at their butcher shop.<sup>4</sup>

Thomas H. Duggan served as Justice of the Peace during 1839, while a soldier, O. M. Morris, found fame by being the first person executed at Austin. A member of the command of Colonels Edward Burleson, William G. Cooke, and William L. Cazneau, Morris was charged with stabbing an officer, tried in camp on Walnut Creek, and put to death on November 28, 1839.<sup>5</sup>

Before that first year of 1839 ended, Congress incorporated the City of Austin on December 27, 1839, and there were thoughts of a mayor and aldermen to be elected.<sup>6</sup> The government of the city was started in the aldermen form that was to last seventy years, until 1909, when the city assumed the commission form, with four commissioners and mayor, until 1926, at which time the city manager form was used. In the original aldermen operation in 1839, each district or ward sent its alderman to meetings and later each ward had its school.

In 1840, January was a momentous month for the capital city, with the thirteenth being the keynote. The city being incorporated, the election of officials was in order, and 187 voters unanimously elected Edwin Waller as mayor, with the aldermen being J. W. Garrity, Jacob M. Harrell, D. M. Johnson, Nicholas McArthur, A. Savary, C. Schoolfield, William W. Thompson, Samuel Whiting; A. C. Hyde became recorder; Francis Prentiss, treasurer; J. W. Hann, marshal.<sup>7</sup> A. C. Hyde was the first postmaster, and Wayne Barton, the son of William Barton, was the first sheriff.

On that same January 13, the Supreme Court met in Asa Brigham's home for the first time, in a session lasting thirteen days. Chief Justice Thomas J. Rusk presided, and associates were E. T. Branch, William J. Jones, John T. Mills, James M. Robinson, and A. B. Shelby. W. F. Gray was clerk and Preston Conlee, sheriff.

Also on the same 13th the citizens were reading notices by James Harper Starr, Secretary of the Treasury, scheduling another sale of lots, and cautioning the citizens not to cut timber that belonged to the Republic.

There was activity in real estate in January, 1840. James



## *Austin During the Republic of Texas*

Burke advertised Lot 1, Block 55, on Congress, Williams' store corner of today, with a frontage of 160 feet on Pine Street and 46 feet on Congress Avenue. He also offered for sale his store, the Phoenix corner, offering the tract fronting on Bois d'Arc Street, beginning with lots 4, 5, 6, in Block 70, and going back 458 feet to Colorado Street, comprising both corners on the Avenue and on Colorado Street. Supplies sold in his store there were advertised on January 22, 1840, in the *Texas Sentinel*, listing "calicoes, printed muslins, domestics, scotch gingham, silks . . . ready made clothing, consisting of pantaloons . . . medicines, cutlery."

All of this area became Travis County on January 25, 1840, by an act of Congress, and was named for William Barret Travis.<sup>8</sup> Soon, county courts were being held quarterly, and James W. Smith was the first county judge. Actually, the county was operating during 1839, before its creation became official. Then, there were plans for a jail to be built, a ferry at Montopolis, roads and revenue were considered, and Wm. T. Wood was named to work out the problem of provision for the poor; the county's ad valorem tax was 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  %.

In February, 1840, Anson Jones was introducing M. de Saligny, the new minister from France, to the capitol crowd. De Saligny stayed for a while at Bullock's in a house on West Pecan, and later built the French Embassy on a high hill in East Austin. Anson Jones had bought the land in February, 1840, for \$500, and by fall had doubled his money in a sale to de Saligny,<sup>9</sup> who built the embassy on the 21-acre site. When he left, it was sold to Bishop Odin (who served in the Senate as Chaplain), for \$6,500 in April, 1842, and then to Moseley Baker, in 1847, and in 1848 to Dr. Joseph W. Robertson who gave his name to the hill.

There were continuing sales of lots in Austin, while down the river the town of Comanche also was laying out lots and advertising sales. In the Travis County election of March, 1840, M. H. Beatty became county clerk, and Wayne Barton sheriff. Comanche, which was Beat #4 of Travis County, in its election of March 2, 1840, recorded 8 votes for Charles H. Abbey, 7 for Thomas W. Duggan, and 3 for N. T. Byers, for justice of the peace. In the constable race, Matthew Moss received 6 votes, and L. Livis 4. For the election, John D. Anderson was clerk,

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with F. H. Duffau, and managers were B. C. Robertson, W. B. Swazy, Samuel Hazlett, and James Walsh. On March 14, 1840, their votes also preferred Wayne Barton for sheriff of the county.<sup>10</sup>

Not too many in Travis County were interested in the ninth President of the United States, William Henry Harrison, who took office to the tune of his log cabin and cider background, but died during his term. There was more interest in the census taken by Amos Roark, a Presbyterian minister, and his count of the citizens proved the population to be about 806.<sup>11</sup> Seventy-five families were listed, but more men were here, 550 of them, and 61 ladies and 100 children. They were all creeds and races, every business and profession,—10 Baptists, 10 Catholics, 11 Episcopalians, 10 Lutherans, 17 Methodists, 12 Presbyterians. There were two churches, one Methodist and one Presbyterian. Others were conducting services at the capitol, and two ministers were listed, one Baptist and one Presbyterian. Recorded were six doctors, 120 gamblers, four lawyers, 35 mechanics,—6 inns, 9 groceries, 9 stores, 6 faro banks, 1 billiard room.

One of the pioneers, William Barton, died April 11, 1840. He had been in Texas twelve years, arriving in 1828 and settling below Bastrop in 1829. In November, 1837, he moved his family to Barton Springs, where he was buried. Later he was reburied in Round Rock.

In May, 1840, long before Russia could popularize their claim to May Day, the citizens celebrated May 1 with a cotillion. Luckily, it did not take much money for a party, because Texas currency was worth only about 16c on the dollar.<sup>12</sup>

On May 7, 1840, the first marriage license went on record for the new county when the Reverend John Haynie married Louisa Jane Miller and Alexander G. Johnson. Judge James W. Smith, on May 17, married Mrs. Mary McCrory and Anson Jones, who became President of the Republic of Texas in December, 1844.

Always, there was recurring the question about Austin being a permanent site for the capital, although sales of lots continued active, and nearly half a million dollars was invested in buildings and businesses in Austin. The affairs of the Republic were fluctuating, annexation was discussed, and sometimes the Texas red backs were worth about 22c on the dollar.

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By August, 1840, Austin had a new mayor, Thomas William Ward, to replace Edwin Waller who wanted to retire and relax in the city he had planned and laid out. Also, he was interested in assisting Lamar that fall, when J. R. Slocomb contracted to construct an addition to the smokehouse on Lamar's property near College Hill. Lamar had bought this property earlier in 1840, when Congress in January sanctioned the sale of some lots outside the original mile-square town. On February 24 he bought 68 acres, which ran from the creek north of today's Scottish Rite Dormitory on down to 24th Street, bounded on the east by Waller Creek and by Guadalupe Street on the west.

Here he built a small house, where he lived when he left the White House at the end of his term as President of the Republic of Texas. This was later the location of the Whitis place; and for this land, in 1840, he paid \$2,510, payable in installments completed by January, 1846. However, Indian raids were frequent, and he did not live there long.

Trouble was brewing in the county, leading up to the pig incident between the French minister, de Saligny, and Richard Bullock, the inn-keeper from Kentucky, who later was called "Mr. Bull-Ox" by de Saligny. The *State Gazette* of September 2, 1840, printed this:

A warning to all whom it may concern: Pigs are troublesome about these diggin's, breaking down fences, and rooting up gardens,—Those persons who own pigs had better therefore, keep them at home, or some of their pigs will be rendered unable to walk home by being metamorphosed into pork.<sup>13</sup>

Another election was held at Comanche, Beat #4, on the first Monday of September, 1840, for a representative to Congress, and Dr. S. G. Haynie won over Dr. R. N. Brenham. Clerks in the election were James A. Haynie and Jos. A. Millar, and judges were James Webb, Cyrus K. Taylor and Samuel Hazlett.

In Austin, the city's sixth sale of lots was held on November 30, 1840, and the growth of the city was reflected in the ordinance posted that month by Mayor Thomas William Ward, setting up eight wards in Austin, with each ward to send a representative to the city council. These new wards and their boundaries were:



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- 1st Ward, bounded by Cedar Street, East, West, and Water Avenues.
- 2nd Ward, Cedar and Pecan Streets, Congress and West Avenues.
- 3rd Ward, Cedar and Pecan Streets, Congress and East Avenues.
- 4th Ward, Pecan and Hickory Streets, Congress and West Avenues.
- 5th Ward, Pecan and Hickory Streets, Congress and East Avenues.
- 6th Ward, Mesquite and Hickory Streets, Congress and West Avenues.
- 7th Ward, Mesquite and Hickory Streets, Congress and East Avenues.
- 8th Ward, Mesquite Street, North, East and West Avenues.

By December, 1840, they were electing city officials at these new wards, and the voting boxes were designated at:

- J. M. Harrell's place, 1st Ward,
- Savary's Store on Congress, 2nd Ward,
- Noland and O'Brien's store on Congress, 3rd Ward,
- Cranwell store, next door to Gazette Office, 4th Ward,
- Beatty and Webb's place, Pecan Street, 5th Ward,
- J. Y. Burney's, back of capitol, for 6th Ward,
- Mr. Smithson's house, 7th Ward,
- Mr. Evans' house, 8th Ward.

Moses Johnson, who had been a doctor, was elected mayor for 1841, A. C. Hyde, recorder, and the following aldermen: J. M. Harrell, 1st Ward—N. McArthur, 2nd Ward—A. Savary, 3rd Ward—G. K. Teulon, 4th Ward—W. Beatty, 5th Ward—H. B. Hill, 6th Ward—W. W. Thompson, 7th Ward—Mr. Beck, 8th Ward.<sup>14</sup>

While the Senate was in session it confirmed the appointment of James B. Shaw from Ireland as Comptroller, a position he held until 1858, when he left Austin and the house that we know now as Woodlawn. Another person who built a historic home here was James N. Raymond, of New York, who served the House of Representatives as clerk for about five years after his arrival in Austin.

It was during the year of 1840 that maps and plats were made which are used today. James Harper Starr, under direction of Congress concerning sales of lots, requested bids for three copies of maps with streets, etc., included, one copy for the land office, one for the capitol, and one for the treasurer's office. H. Mollhausen submitted a bid for \$500 each, and William H. Sandusky for \$400 each, thus the maps of that era that we know today are Sandusky's.<sup>15</sup>

The year of 1841 started off cold, with a reading of 7° on Saturday morning, January 16.<sup>16</sup> But the local newspaper was more concerned with finances in Austin, suggesting that a statement be published. At the same time the city government was

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hinting at new taxes. There were taxes of \$1 on carriages, horses, even if for pleasure purposes; a gold watch was taxed \$3, only \$1 if it were silver; \$3 for a metal clock. Pleasure was the keyword of taxable items: \$1 per wheel for any cart or carriage providing pleasure; and the gamblers paid on their playing cards, at \$3 per deck.

Three hundred and sixty-eight people voted in an election that made A. C. McFarlane sheriff, over Ira Munson. Special subjects of discussion were roads, revenue, mail transportation, and the Houston-Austin Turnpike Company was authorized to build a road.

On Tuesday evening January 26, the levee given by the President added a lilt to their lives.<sup>17</sup> Congress adjourned on February 10, after nearly 14 weeks in session, with William L. Cazneau representing Travis County.

New business continued to come to the county and city; Joseph Cox was quarrying material nearby for his work as mason and stone cutter at the corner of Pine and San Jacinto Streets. On the Avenue, just below the Treasury Building, Philip Evans opened his barber shop and the Washington house was opened on the west half of Lot 5, Block 55.<sup>18</sup>

The newspaper, *Texas Sentinel*, of February 19, 1841, was suggesting to supporters of Sam Houston that they concern themselves with the empty treasury he left at the end of his term, with no credit, lots of debts, pay due the military, and valueless scrip and star money, which made it necessary to have the red backs.

By April, 1841, Texas money was worth about 30-35 cents, and there was more talk of taxes! A non-resident paid 1% ad valorem, and a resident only half of that; taxes could be paid in produce, or even cattle. Trading like that was often used in bargaining for coffee, which was scarce.

A new hotel had its opening in March, 1841, on the southeast corner of Pecan and Congress, formerly the site of S. R. Miller's Austin City House. The owner, G. H. Harrison took in the place that had belonged to Webb and Beatty; by May, the Travis House was included too, and the addition of a bar and a stable made this new Austin City Hotel a popular place, with stabling and hostlers provided.<sup>19</sup> The Log Cabin, serving food, was opened by H. Brown below the State Department on the

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Avenue.

Across the street, at the northeast corner of Pecan and Congress, there was a boarding house run by Miller and Johnson. Captain George M. Dolson's grocery was to the north, and Dennis Walsh had his blacksmith shop nearby. Chas. Baudlin and Company opened a pastry and confectionery shop across the Avenue, selling ginger, beer, and other items.<sup>20</sup>

Benjamin P. Johnson joined Dr. Robertson in a new drug and apothecary shop on the Avenue. On May 5, 1841, the *State Gazette* continued its spicy comments on the pig incident involving de Saligny's corn patch and Bullock's pigs. When de Saligny wanted Bullock punished, the President referred the matter to civil authorities and de Saligny left the Republic of Texas, and Travis County, and Austin.

A month later, men gathered out on Brushy Creek, north of Austin, and nearly three hundred left in a group under General Hugh McLeod on June 20, to open up trade with the Santa Fe area. President Lamar sent three commissioners, R. F. Brenham, W. G. Cooke, and Jose A. Navarro, with this expedition, the dream of the Austins and of Lamar, which was fated to fail. Lamar spent the night of the 19th in camp with the men before they left.<sup>21</sup> They paraded in review and Miss Cazneau furnished a flag, which was presented at W. L. Cazneau's house.

Houston's election was not far in the future, for on Monday, September 6, 1841, he was elected President with Edward Burleson as Vice President. In Austin, the *Gazette* advocated Sam Houston, while the *Sentinel* supported Burnet.<sup>22</sup>

Houston made history at his inauguration on the second Monday in December, 1841, as the first and last President of the Republic of Texas to be inaugurated in Austin. The partying and parading started early, about 11 o'clock on December 8, when a delegation met Houston as he arrived, with speeches by the mayor and Houston to the tune of guns going at the arsenal. On December 13, he and Vice President Edward Burleson were inaugurated, with the Travis Guards taking part in the ceremonies, and a ball outdoors that evening back of the capitol. The reception committee appointed by the city council was Messrs. Beatty, Harrell, Haynie, Hill, Simpson, Teulon and Thompson.

Lamar, leaving office, had done much to end the Mexican and Indian threat, and had initiated the school and college sys-



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tem of Texas. The matters of money were not all that worried the new President, Sam Houston; he evidently was agitating for repairs on the white house, because the *Austin City Gazette*, on December 1, 1841, commented on the condition of the roof, and the fact that "Texas will have a Lady Presidente."<sup>23</sup>

Even then souvenir seekers were ambitious. Items taken from the President's house were holsters, mattresses and pillows,—all listed as Lamar's.<sup>24</sup>

And one wonders what happened to Bachelor's Hall, which Moses Wells was advertising for rent or sale, at Wells' corner of Pine and Sabine Streets, on Lot 8, in Block 37.<sup>25</sup> That fall, St. Charles Exchange Hotel opened, with rates of \$2.50 to \$3.50 per day.<sup>26</sup>

There was humor about, as evidenced by those who termed themselves "Congress Extraordinary of Rounders of the Republic of Texas," which was a hilarious burlesque on Congress, with members listed from Epidemic, Hyena's Hollow, Kamchatka, Schubatansville, Screamersville, Screw-Auger Creek, Squizzlejig County, Raccoon's Ford, and Toe Nail.<sup>27</sup> Their session started on Saturday, December 25, 1841, at Dolson's place, on a damp, dark day, and they voted to reconvene in the year of Confusion 5845. On December 13, 1841, city officials were elected at the Bexar Exchange.

1842 was the year when the threat of the grass growing in the streets of Austin almost came true, because when Congress adjourned, the government group left, and the citizens concentrated on keeping the archives in Austin.

Then the threat of Mexican attack recurred. Couriers called on the citizens warning of the danger from General Rafael Vasquez, and a group gathered under General Edward Burleson to go to San Antonio. When they returned, Austin was about abandoned as only a few families were left. General Antonio Canales came up from Mexico with soldiers, and though they were repulsed, it was discouraging to the settlers in the county and city.

When President Sam Houston ordered the archives to Houston, Austin citizens, realizing that the archives were the only symbol left of their government, were reluctant to let them leave. A citizens' committee was organized to see that they stayed in Austin, with William L. Cazneau, A. D. Coombs,

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Joseph Lee, Eugene C. Kelly, James Webb, Samuel Whiting, and others. Mark Lewis and John Noland were among the vigilance committee. So, the summer saw a stalemate.

On April 12, 1842, Samuel Whiting, the newspaperman wrote to Lamar saying, "Old Sam Houston and David G. Burnet have played the very devil here. . . . We are holding on to the Archives like death to dead negro and are determined they shall not be taken from here 'till ordered by a higher power than Sam Houston."<sup>28</sup>

That fall the citizens had a big buffalo hunt out near Brushy Creek, north of Austin, and the city truly was the deserted village. When the residents could not get ammunition from Captain Sutton at the arsenal because the government was gone and no requisition forms were available, they took over the arsenal and the ammunition. Some they stored near Bullock's, and they set up a cannon there too, just in case.

President Houston called the Sixth Congress in special session in Houston, meeting on June 27, 1842. The Mexicans were again threatening under General Adrian Woll. Word was received too, of the death of George W. Bonnell, one of those on the Santa Fe expedition, and for whom Travis County's mountain was named.

Still the citizens kept their archives since it seemed their possession was synonymous with retaining the capital here. Then in December, 1842, President Houston asked Eli Chandler and Thomas I. Smith to bring the archives in wagons to Washington-on-the-Brazos, where Congress was in session.

They slipped into the city from the northeast during the night of December 29-30, with three wagons and 24 men, and were loading the archives from the land office in the alley west of Hancock's store (where Scarbrough's is now), when they were discovered by Mrs. Eberly, who had risen early that morning of December 30. She spun the cannon around, from in front of Bullock's, and fired at the wagons, trying to rally the citizens on that cold December morning.<sup>29</sup> Mark B. Lewis and others came, and tried to get Thomas Smith to leave the archives, but his party left with them. They were going back to Houston the same way, via Nashville, fearing they would be stopped at Bastrop. They were at Brushy Creek, near Kinney's fort, cooking supper in camp when Lewis and his party caught

up with them on December 31. They released the archives, but would not return them. The citizens had gathered at Mrs. Eberly's, and although supplies were scarce supper was served when the men returned.

Those days that followed were probably the duller days in the history of Travis County, with the government gone.

1843 was worse, as many followed the government to Houston. Weeds were growing in the streets of Austin, supplies were not sent in often, and in February there was a rise of 36 feet in the river.<sup>30</sup>

On May 4, 1843, Judge James Webb wrote to his old friend, Lamar, "Poor Austin has sadly changed since you saw it . . . small population,—no business . . ." <sup>31</sup> But by June the citizens' thoughts had turned to other things when they met on June 15 to talk about a party for Lamar, who was coming back to Austin, and selected George K. Teulon to represent Travis County in inviting Lamar to a barbecue in his honor.

The summer was hot, times were trying, and with elections ahead tempers were threatening too. In July Mark Lewis died from a fight on election day, while two others, John Nolan and Aleck Peyton (son of Mrs. Eberly) were killed in the same fracas.

That was the year William Bollaert saw Austin and the Travis County area and wrote: "In the afternoon left Webber's Prairie. The road to Austin becomes pleasingly diversified with hill, dale and timbers, passing Wilbarger's and Walnut Creek." <sup>32</sup> There is questioned here his passing Wilbarger's *after* he left Webber's Prairie.

Commenting on Austin, he wrote: "Waterloo . . . Joseph Harrell, a hunter, erected a tent on the river bank in 1835." <sup>33</sup> And he continued:

. . . has many advantages of location not immediately discernible to the traveller who does not look beyond the spot itself for the mines of wealth destined to contribute their riches for the enlargement and decoration of our new Capitol. It is located at the foot of a spur of the Cordilleras mountains, terminating in the valley of the Colorado. From this place the great road of the traders to Santa Fe will be laid out through a rich and well watered country, abounding in game, and bees as numerous as the swarm of Hybla, and blessed with a climate



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fit to yield the Hesperian Fruit, which may here be gathered without the fear of the "sleepless dragon." Its proximity to the provinces of Mexico, on the north and west borders of the Republic, with the aid of capital, which will soon find its way here, must attract all the valuable trade at present carried to St. Louis and Matamoras.<sup>34</sup>

Of Austin he wrote:

It is difficult to give a full and just description of this spot with its surrounding scenery. If Rome was celebrated in song for her "seven hills," Austin may well boast of her "thousand mounds" . . .<sup>35</sup>

Then he depicted 1843 in Austin:

On entering the city of Austin, Lo! Dreariness and desolation presented themselves; few houses appeared inhabited and many falling to decay. The "Legation of France" empty, its doors and windows open, palings broken down, and appearing as if it would be soon in ruins. The President's house looked gloomy, the streets filled with grass and weeds, and the western people say all this "through the vindictiveness of Old Sam."<sup>36</sup>

He concluded about Austin:

August 25th, 1843: Visited the "President's House." It is falling to pieces, and now the residence of bats. The Capitol is the abode of bats, lizards and stray cattle. . . . Alas! Poor Austin, thy seven hills are nearly deserted, exposed to the marauding of the Comanches, and this year visited by considerable sickness, until then it was proverbally healthy; the balmy southern breezes tempering the heat of summers, and the high mountains behind shielding it from the frigid "northers." I could not have seen Austin and this section of Texas, as far as regards the social position of the inhabitants, at a more unfavorable period.<sup>37</sup>

Asa Brigham was mayor in Austin for part of 1843, followed by Dr. J. W. Robertson. On the first Saturday and Sunday of July, there was a two-day Methodist meeting here. Otherwise, there were depressing days in Travis County then.

But no one was more depressed than George K. Teulon, who on October 21, 1843, wrote to Anson Jones:

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It is said you are the Houston candidate for President. Well, I do not think I shall be in opposition, for the possibility is I shall be out of the country. I am attached to Austin. I love its mountain seat, its beautiful scenery, and even its very atmosphere. It was my first abiding place . . . it shall be my last. If Congress and the Government do not come here, I must leave here and seek another clime. When I quit here, I quit Texas.<sup>38</sup>

Of such were the settlers of Austin; Teulon later left and went to Asia where, in 1847, he died of cholera. Congress convened that year of 1843, before the year ended, but not at Austin.

1844 was no more encouraging, but Dr. Robertson as mayor must have had some influence because that spring he received from Matagorda a wagon of supplies, consisting of coffee, flour, salt, and sugar.

Anson Jones, elected president over Edward Burleson, was inaugurated, not at Austin but at Washington, where Houston in his farewell address talked of annexation. The subject of banking often came up too, but opposition to private banking resulted in an act against it. Martin van Buren's opposition to the annexation of Texas lost him his bid for the democratic nomination that year, and so the eleventh president of the United States was James Knox Polk, who in his term was to know the Wilmot proviso barring slaves in new states.

Probably the saddest news for the citizens of Austin that year was of the men who drew black beans and were shot in Mexico, and whose names are on the monument to the Mier men at La Grange. From Travis County there were four: Robert Harris, Thomas L. Jones, James M. Ogden, and Martin C. Wing.

In 1845 the good years started again for the Austin area. Congress, in session at Washington-on-the-Brazos, in June voted for annexation. The Travis County residents asked the convention considering it, to meet in Austin, at which time the archives would be released. On July 4, Austin knew a gala day again. The convention met to formulate an acceptable state constitution, and by October the state officials were in Austin. J. P. Henderson was elected Texas' first governor that fall, and Austin was the capital city again.

Activity returned to Austin. Log cabins were being converted into frame houses for permanent homes. A. J. Harrell,

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son of that first settler, Jacob Harrell, was county clerk in 1845, and in December Judge Thomas H. Duval arrived to practice law for ten years before becoming district judge. George Hancock also came to Austin that year, to remain until he died in 1879, and to become owner of that store at Congress and Pecan for a long time. It was in 1845 that John J. Grumbles, a pioneer who had settled at Webber's in 1838 and whose name would become well known, bought the Barton place out at the springs. In late 1845 Francis Dieterich purchased the tavern of W. W. Thompson, and the *Texas National Register* of December 24, 1845 advertised the store that Dieterich was opening at the site of Alexander Russell's store. William Mockford, Austin's tailor, located across from the Treasury Department on the Avenue.

It was on February 16, 1846 that the first legislature of the new state of Texas convened at the capital city of Austin. Seats were taken from the House and Senate to the outside gallery of the old capitol for members, and the citizens crowded around on the grounds for the ceremony of statehood. Sam Houston and Thomas J. Rusk were sent as senators from Texas to Washington; J. Pinckney Henderson was Governor, with David G. Burnet as Secretary of State; James B. Shaw as Comptroller; Thomas William Ward as Land Commissioner; and William G. Cooke as Adjutant General.

All are acquainted with the words of President Anson Jones that day, which ended:

The Lone Star of Texas, which ten years since arose amid clouds, over fields of carnage, and obscurely seen for awhile, has culminated, and following an inscrutable destiny, has passed on and become fixed forever in that glorious constellation which all freemen and lovers of freedom in the world must reverence and adore—the American Union. Blending its rays with its sister States, long may it continue to shine . . . The first act in the great drama is now performed. The Republic of Texas is no more.<sup>39</sup>

And the citizens of the capital city watched as the flag of the Republic of Texas was lowered, and the flag of the United States went up.



## CHAPTER V

# *Austin, County Seat and Capital City of the Lone Star State of Texas*

1846 - 1860

This was the era of elegance for Austin, when the log cabins of those first frontiersmen became part of their past and the missions and the wigwams were symbols of an earlier era. Replacing those log cabins were colonial homes, with their vast verandas, or porches, and classic columns, usually four or six of them. The homes they built then are historic in Austin a century later.

In this period they also had problems, such as transportation, as they were encouraging railroads; fire protection, with the old cisterns being used; temperance was talked; and there was black tongue, cholera, droughts, freezes, and grasshoppers. The Dred Scott decision was made and banks were still banned.

Politics were popular, as were ferries, horse races, camp meetings, the circus, lyceums, minstrels, barbecues on holidays, balls and band concerts. Flounces went out of fashion, and Austin knew conventions of doctors, lawyers, and politicians.

There were new churches and schools as education was stepped up, but still not actively. Many Austin girls went to school in San Antonio. New papers were published, stores were established, and the city had a new state cemetery, land office building, treasury building, and a new capitol, with the old one becoming the city hall and markethouse. The mansion site was changed and a new mansion built, and a new courthouse and jail, asylums for the blind, deaf and dumb, and lunatics were in Austin.

As Austin, county seat of Travis County, started into the

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springtime of 1846 as the capital city of the new Lone Star state, government officials were at the capitol again, busy with reorganization under the new constitution. Visiting them at the capitol in March, 1846, was Chief Juan Castro of the Lipans.

Politics were always popular, and the *Texas Democrat* of April 15, 1846, was advocating the organization of the democrats in Travis County.

From this year of statehood, 1846, until about the time of the Civil War, the people paid \$1 for poll tax. Around 1858 it dropped to one-half that fee, but in 1862 it was raised back to \$1 where it remained for the next twenty years. Property taxes went from 20c on \$100 valuation in 1846 to 12½c in 1860, and then up to 50c.<sup>1</sup>

Many interesting people were coming to Austin in those days: Colonel Walker to talk about rifles and revolvers; Associate Justice Abner S. Lipscomb arrived in December; and Captain James G. Swisher built his home on the south side of the river across the road from the deaf school site. His sons were John and James. John was with the Treasury Department in 1839, and served the state and city in many offices, until he died in 1891.

By 1847 folks with kin back in Ireland were learning of the fearful famine that was their fate that year. But there was no shortage in Austin; new stores were starting up, and one began that year which was to last longer than a lifetime. John Bremond, who had come to Austin with his family in 1845, opened a store at 109 East Pecan, and built a bigger building in 1852. When he died in 1866, his sons, John, Jr. and Eugene took over its operation. In 1870 Eugene sold out to John and his brother-in-law, John H. Robinson, Jr., who came in as a partner. In 1871, when the Houston and Texas Central Railroad came, it became a wholesale company, instead of the old general store. In 1898 Robinson sold out to John Bremond, and in the early 1900's Bremond's became known for its coffee, being the first firm in Texas to roast-grind coffee.<sup>2</sup>

On December 21, 1847, George T. Wood was inaugurated governor, and 1848 opened with a meeting of the Democratic Party on January 10.<sup>3</sup> As a result, on February 21, 1848, Texas' first democratic convention was held in the capital city.<sup>4</sup>

Still the new settlers came. One of these, Captain George

N. Sampson, came in 1848, had a hotel at Congress and Bois d'Arc, served in the Civil War, and married a niece of Governor E. J. Davis in the first wedding in the governor's mansion in 1872. Their daughters later married A. G. Smoot and Ernest Nalle.

A relative of a famous man, Richard Bache, grandson of Benjamin Franklin, died in Austin at a boarding house on March 17, 1848. He had worked as a clerk in the Third Congress in 1838-39.<sup>5</sup>

But James H. Raymond was the most envied man in Austin as he owned the only buggy in 1848, which he had gotten from a gambler.<sup>6</sup>

It was in 1849 that the Bullock Hotel, meeting place of those first settlers, changed from being the Swisher Hotel to the Austin Hotel of Henry W. McCulloch. Captain James G. Swisher, former owner, was erecting a two-story building on the Avenue, in front of Bullock's, with four rooms up and four down, and the usual galleries.

The Eberly House had become the Barker House directed by Thomas Glasscock, but Mrs. Barker who operated it was not to find the fame that Mrs. Eberly did. Up the Avenue, at Bois d' Arc, was the Miller Hotel, and Michael Ziller had his William Tell Hotel at the corner of Pecan and Brazos Streets on the south side. Ziller also was erecting a stone building at the northeast corner of Pecan and Congress, the first on the Avenue, on Lot 1, Block 69. This portion of his original grant went to Major Littlefield in 1852 for the later Littlefield Building.

The theme that year of 1849 in Travis County seemed to be temperance, and the Sons of Temperance built their hall between Pecan and Bois d' Arc Streets on the Avenue. In 1851 they had a new building between the Avenue and Colorado Street, on the north side, about the middle of the block between Dr. Haynie's house and the old capitol.

In 1849 General William Selby Harney bought Lamar's place of 68 acres north of the present University and his home became headquarters for many military men. Harney was part of the Travis County history during the era of early statehood. He was placed in charge of the 8th Military District in 1852, built barracks and stables at this location for his soldiers. Lamar's house stood there near a tree called the "Cannon Tree"



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and Harney's cottage was northwest of it. Harney sold the 68 acres to C. W. Whitis on May 7, 1870, for \$9,000. Whitis came to Texas in 1854 and after the Civil War joined James H. Raymond in buying the Swenson Banking Firm. On the 68 acres, Whitis plotted a street named Berlin (Whitis Avenue), but later sold some of the land to Jesse L. and John W. Driskill.

In November, the capitol was the scene of the Third State Congress, and the inauguration of Governor Peter H. Bell on December 21. Most Texans felt a personal interest in the twelfth president of the United States, Zachary Taylor, who had so lately been on the Texas border, on the Rio Grande River.

Constantly recurring was the question of location of the capital, and since provision had been made for an election in 1850 to select the seat of government for the next twenty years, the ballots were cast in March, 1850, and Austin won again.

In 1850 many settlers arrived whose names are known today. Henry Burke Kinney, an educator, bought a block of land between Pecan and Pine Streets, west of Austin, where he built his home about 1852.

Edward Seiders too, arrived in 1850, and farmed out at the springs that knew his name. Henry Seiders had come in about 1840, as a builder who operated a quarry.

Another who started a store in about 1850 was Swen M. Swenson, whose uncle, Swante Palm, joined him in his store later. Until he left here at the time of the Civil War, Swenson interested other Swedes in coming to Travis County. Many were farmers and started gins at Decker, Elroy, Lund, and Round Rock. Others were bankers, as the Nelsons of the Farmers State Bank at Round Rock, August Swenson of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Hutto. Reputedly, it was Swenson who gave Govalle its name, because of his constant comment to his sons and settlers, "ga° valla." And go to the valley he did also, because he lived in Govalle until he left Austin, and the legend still lingers of the gold he buried beneath his house when he left Austin during the Civil War.

Lamar Moore, also an early settler, was building a three-story building at the corner of Bois d' Arc Street and the Avenue. Since bricks were being manufactured at the mouth of Shoal Creek by A. H. Cook and Moore, bricks were used in this building. Moore, one of the city's first builders, died before he

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completed his building, and S. G. Haynie's store occupied this building at Bois d' Arc and Congress. Many started using bricks in construction, especially after some of them were on display at the *Gazette* office. Even Wade Henry housed his anvil and blacksmith tools and clanged away in a brick building on Pecan Street at San Jacinto.

The Swenson Building on the Avenue opened in the fall of 1850. It was located across from the Orleans House, at about Hickory Street, near Dutch John's old location, with Swante Palm keeping books. This building, later the Avenue Hotel, had a store adjoining it to the south, which was built about 1851.<sup>7</sup>

George W. Sampson and Abram Henricks had their store at the corner of the Avenue and Pecan; then Ben Henricks succeeded Abram, his brother, when he died, and about 1875 the firm became Henricks and Wheeler.<sup>8</sup>

On Tuesday night, September 17, 1850, there was excitement in the form of a jail break, and on October 3, a temperance jubilee, with delegates from Lockhart and Webber's Prairie.

It was cold early that year as December 7 was wintry with 14° and ice.<sup>9</sup> But it warmed up enough to have a sale of lots on the 16th and 17th, when 515 lots were sold for about \$17,000.<sup>10</sup> Over half of this, around \$10,000, was earmarked for the new land office to be built later at the northwest corner of the capitol grounds.

In 1851 Thanksgiving was celebrated on March 2, having been designated thus by Governor Bell on December 31, 1850. On January 11, 1851, the *Texas State Gazette* published the proclamation of the Governor setting the first Thursday in March as Thanksgiving day.

Building boomed in the fifties, and there was a contract letting and cornerstone laying on March 31, 1851, for the new land office building, which was to be fire-proof.

Dennis Walsh, the first blacksmith, had his stable northeast of the Orleans House, near which Robert G. Rice had a saddle shop. McKean's new store was two doors above the post office, and settlers from Travis County were bringing in their produce of butter, cheese, chickens and eggs. D. Priestly was doing daguerreotypes upstairs in McKean's building.

H. P. Brewster, editor of the *Texas State Gazette*, com-

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mented on the fact that over one hundred houses were being built in Austin.<sup>11</sup> And William Simpson, jeweler, was advertising—"ladies' finger-rings," "bosom-pins," and "ear-drops."<sup>12</sup>

Dr. John S. Elgin died in Austin in June, 1851, and in November came the death of Francis Dieterich, who was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Also, just as the year ended, so did the life of General Edward Burleson, a man whose name was synonymous with the Travis County area. In town for the session of the Senate, he died on December 26, 1851, at the home of Nat Raymond at Mulberry and Guadalupe Streets.<sup>13</sup> It was then that the Fourth Legislature, which he was attending, started the State Cemetery, by burying the old settler on land owned by A. J. Hamilton. The land was purchased by the state in 1854, at which time the cemetery was then supplied with a sexton.

Streets were being graded and Bois d' Arc Street was being leveled. The land office was doing business in a new two-story stone house, located northwest of the capitol, at the top of the Avenue. Here, the Texas Supreme Court met upstairs for many years.<sup>14</sup> There were about sixty lawyers listed in Austin, many of whom had known the site of the old Supreme Court at the southeast corner of Pecan Street and the Avenue where decisions had been handed down by Hemphill, Lipscomb, and Wheeler.

On the northeast corner of the capitol grounds stood the new treasury building of white stone. The old treasury building on the west side below Pecan and Congress became law offices. George Hancock, branching out, had bought this old building on Lot 4, Block 55, and was leasing out offices to such men as Attorney General Thomas J. Jennings, Ben Carter, A. J. Hamilton, W. S. Oldham, Thomas E. Sneed, and Alex W. Terrell.

Judge John Hemphill who had lived in the house on the west side of Hancock's store, moved and Hancock acquired this house. Hemphill moved to a bigger place south of the new Catholic Church at Ash and Brazos Streets. Judge Oldham had a house at Twelfth and Guadalupe streets.

General Albert Sidney Johnston was living in a cottage west of the capitol, built in 1850 on block 135 by Dr. Haynie. It became the home of Ernest Nalle, was moved to the east end of the block by the Andrews family, and later sold to A. Cook. This half-block, where Johnston lived, faced the capitol, and had originally been marked for offices of the land department



and attorney general on that first layout of Austin, but was never used for them.

In March, 1852, the river rose 35 feet, and the foundation was laid for the new capitol. Charles L. McGehee was contractor, and A. H. Cook and John Brandon were furnishing material and work on the dome, woodwork, and painting. The new capitol, the first for the state, was built close to the center of the original acres designated for the capitol in 1839, in front of the present capitol. It was to be fifty to sixty feet wide, about one hundred feet long, and three stories high. On August 3, 1852, the cornerstone was set with appropriate ceremonies.

Another who contributed much to Austin was Alexander W. Terrell, who came in 1852, and was to write of his era in Austin's history. He saw service in the Civil War, and in the legislature.

Then it was 1853, Franklin Pierce was the fourteenth president of the United States, slavery was becoming an issue, and Jefferson Davis was Secretary of War.

In Austin there was another sale of lots on May 9, 1853, and \$33,000 was taken in, with the largest sale being to Sampson and Henricks, at the corner of Bois d' Arc and Congress for \$1,900.<sup>15</sup> Ben Johnston served as postmaster, and Ben McCulloch was U. S. marshal.

Still newcomers arrived. Dr. John R. McCall, a dentist who came here in 1853, was also a minister and manager of the City Hotel at Congress and Pine during the 50's. Another was William N. Walton from Mississippi, who opened his law office and had a building named for him later. He was a law partner of A. J. Hamilton and S. G. Sneed before becoming Attorney General of the state.

One of the first settlers, Jacob Harrell, died on August 23, 1853. Harrell had served Austin from his meat market in 1839, and in 1847 as mayor.

On December 21, 1853, Elisha M. Pease was inaugurated as Texas' fifth governor at the old capitol on West Hickory. The fifth legislature met there too, before moving to the new capitol a few days later. Serving with Governor Pease were Lt. Governor David C. Dickson, Secretary of State Edward Clark, Comptroller James B. Shaw, and Land Commissioner Stephen Crosby.

The district court still met upstairs over Hancock's store.

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Swenson's building on the avenue was nearing completion. The City Hotel was run by Mrs. Jane M. George, formerly of the Missouri House. George Glasscock had finished two three-story buildings on the Avenue.<sup>16</sup>

John Bremond's store was advertising cheese, chains, clams, clothing, coffee, crackers, cranberries, crowbars, and cutlery.<sup>17</sup> At Fox's leather shop, leather goods were being fashioned out of just about everything, including whig coons!<sup>18</sup>

A county fair was being talked, the Methodist ladies were giving a supper, and one of Austin's oldest industries, the Austin Soap factory, was started in 1854 by the Leser family.

In 1855, the invention of the bicycle in the national news was almost unnoticed in Austin. Building was booming.

Property prices were higher, promoters were selling lots in new subdivisions, and building was going on outside the boundaries of the original mile-square town. Land was lush then, selling up to \$15 an acre out on Onion Creek, west of the river.<sup>19</sup> P. Franck opened his bath house on the river above the new Swisher Ferry, with a bath house for ladies and four bathing rooms for gents built later. Charges were 25c for one bath, and if taken by two people together, 20c, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an hour was allowed for a bath.<sup>20</sup>

Springtime saw S. M. Swenson in the news when he was named to contract for a new two-story courthouse with a jail behind it. \$16,000 was allotted with a proviso added that it be ready for court that fall. Thomas H. Jones was awarded the contract.<sup>21</sup> The stone courthouse was completed by fall and served for over twenty years on West Cedar (1962 site of the American-Statesman building) until the newer courthouse was built in 1876. Before the 1850's court sessions had been held in any convenient store or home.<sup>22</sup>

In May, 1855, Barton Springs, the historic spot where Captain Grumbles had been living, sold with the springs and the 177 acres around it for \$28.50 an acre. A. B. McGill was the purchaser.<sup>23</sup>

James H. Raymond, State Treasurer, was building his home on West Pecan, and James E. Brady was watched with wonder by a crowd of citizens while concentrating on the strength of concrete used in his three-story building on the Avenue.<sup>24</sup>

At the *Texas State Gazette* someone with a sense of humor

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wrote an editorial about the ridiculous bonnets of the ladies, the long skirts, and the "hanging sleeves" which were getting into all sorts of things, like the butter.<sup>25</sup> On August 18, 1855, the same newspaper commented on the completion of the governor's mansion, which cost around \$17,000, saying it was "just what a republican governor's house ought to be."<sup>26</sup>

John Marshall was a part owner of the *Gazette* who worked hard to defeat Sam Houston in 1857. Later he served the South in the Civil War, where he died.

Mayor Cleveland was concerned with the care of the cemetery, and the local ladies raised \$400 for the project, with a sexton to be secured.

Politics were popular that fall of 1855. The democrats convened in October, about 6,000 of them for three days, flying flags, eating barbecue, and applauding speeches.<sup>27</sup> The Know-Nothings, too, hit their high in October, when they got Edward Peck in as mayor.<sup>28</sup> And in November, not to be outdone, the American Party had a ball and a big rally in Austin.<sup>29</sup> Governor E. M. Pease, inaugurated December 21, 1855, changed the site of the governor's mansion from the original designation of the west half of block 147, to the present location, where it was built.

1856 was the year that the site of the old capitol at Colorado and Hickory Streets became the city's property, with the provision that the city would release its claim to the market square, and would construct "a commodious market and city hall" within three years.<sup>30</sup> At this time, the city became the proprietor of the cemetery, as well as the capitol site.

The sixth legislature in session in 1856 provided that the Supreme Court meet each third Monday in October, for nine weeks.<sup>31</sup> They appropriated \$10,000 for an asylum for the blind, \$10,000 for an asylum for the deaf and dumb, \$40,000 for the new land office, and \$50,000 for the new lunatic asylum, with the land price not to exceed \$5 an acre, and 400,000 acres were appropriated for the asylums. Commissioners were soon selecting sites, and the land office had cornerstone ceremonies on Saturday, August 30, with Reverend Fontaine taking part, and General Hugh McLeod making the speech. Conrad J. Stremme designed the building which stands at the southeast corner of the capitol grounds. The contract for the building, for \$39,000 went to William Baker and Q. Nichols.<sup>32</sup> It was used as a land



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office until a newer building was constructed in 1916, and this older building became the state headquarters and museum for the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

It is ironic that one hundred years later, the plan used in the 1850's of having office buildings fringe the capitol is being followed. In 1856 the new land office was completed and replaced the old building northwest of the capitol, with its one-story stone building of six rooms. The treasury building was northeast of the capitol, housing the comptroller and auditor in the two-story stone building of twelve rooms.

At this time, there was another book appropriation for the Texas state library, which supplemented the one of \$10,000 by the Third Congress in January, 1839. Another appropriation was made in 1860, but it was after the Civil War before a librarian, Robert Josselyn was appointed, only to be removed during reconstruction days. Joseph Lancaster was an appointee of Governor Davis during his regime, and the new constitution of 1876 again provided for a library, under the department called Insurance, Statistics and History. V. O. King was in charge from 1877 to 1880, but the fire of November, 1881, ended his efforts. The library was started again in 1891, under Governor James S. Hogg, and with the appointment of a historical clerk, the library at the capitol became a reality.<sup>33</sup>

In Austin a census taken in 1856 showed 3,034 people, with four artists, twenty-nine clerks, fourteen doctors, thirty-five lawyers, thirty-two laborers, and one hundred nineteen mechanics. There were thirty-four merchants, nine tavern keepers, eighteen teachers, thirteen traders, and one gentleman. By then there were seven churches, but the schools were ahead, with eight.

The hotels were being run by John A. Polk at the Star Hotel, Mrs. Irene Blaylock at the Missouri House, E. B. Smith at the Metropolitan Hotel. In the fall of 1860, William O. Thomas was operating the Avenue Hotel.

In 1856 John Hancock, George Moore, and Nathan George Shelley were partners in a law office. Two men named Townes came to the area about this time. John C. Townes, also a lawyer, came in 1856, and was later a law professor at the University of Texas, and first dean of their law school. Robert J.

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Townes, another lawyer, arrived a year later, in 1857, to become Secretary of State. He died in 1865 at his home near Mount Bonnell.

At the capitol an artesian well was being dug, and Mr. Affleck, who formerly had a nursery near Natchez, was landscaping the grounds at the capitol. Late in 1856, another wind blew the roof off the new courthouse, just built, with the jail back of it.<sup>34</sup> The capitol roof too, was damaged by the same storm.

The economy of the city was pictured by the *Southern Intelligencer*:

houses renting from \$150 to \$1,000 annually, depending; stores could be leased annually for \$400 to \$1,000; land was selling from \$1 to \$100 an acre, depending, but could be leased for about \$5 an acre; and the servant situation was something, about \$10 to \$25 per month.

Openings for money lenders excellent, as almost everybody would borrow and promise to pay remunerating interest. Loans on long time could be well secured.

Openings for school mistresses and boarding house keepers excellent, if they be pretty and talented. That is, they may marry well if they do not otherwise succeed.

Openings for clergymen excellent, if they can only rub along without salaries and little occasional small sums, to the fast part of the congregation such ministers would be very popular.<sup>35</sup>

At the capitol, arrangements were completed by Guy M. Bryan for a picture of Stephen F. Austin to be hung there, as a reminder of the man who had vast visions for Texas, that made of him a wanderer in the wilderness that was Texas then, whose dreams for Texas did not die, but were left as a legacy with Lamar. Stephen F. Austin, founder of our state, never had a home in Texas, but envisioned it in Austin when he filed his claim to the Travis County area, and for his Little Colony. His name leads the list of the great in Austin and Travis County, Texas.

The *State Gazette* was commenting in its columns:

The society of Travis is excellent. Liberal and enlightened men from all parts of the Union and from Europe are found lending to social life the experience of their varied lives and characters. Owing to the newness of the . . . country, there are few wealthy men with the

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distinctions which are created by money do not exist . . . we are not yet, and hope never to be corrupted by Banks, and its necessary fungus in a Bank of Cod Fish Aristocracy.<sup>36</sup>

Lamar was back in the news, representing the United States in Nicaragua; Sam Houston was defeated for governor, with Hardin R. Runnels of Mississippi winning, with Lt. Governor F. R. Lubbock.

During 1857-58, Dr. W. C. Phillips was bringing in marble from his quarry about three miles from Austin, and showing it to visitors at his home west of where the Austin Library is in 1962.<sup>37</sup>

On December 21, the town people were dancing at the inaugural ball, but on January 9, 1858, they were saddened by the news that Anson Jones had ended his life in Houston.

In 1857 Edward Tips started a hardware store on Congress Avenue, in which he was joined by his brother Walter in 1872. By 1881, after Edward's death Walter Tips owned the store and it has been operated by this family's descendants since his death in 1911. Their business site was on Congress Avenue until 1927, when they occupied a new place at Second and Colorado Streets.

The scene was changing in the capital city, with a new capitol, courthouse, land office, blind and deaf asylums, and in the spring of 1858 James Phillips and Richard Payne bought the old capitol and used much of the material in the market-house at the alley nearby, between Congress and Colorado, on West Hickory Street. This structure served until the seventies, when a city hall was built.<sup>38</sup>

Most of the excitement during 1858 was occasioned by camels sent to Texas. While passing through Austin they were camped on the south side of the river when a caravan of cattle being driven through sighted them. The cattle stampeded, causing quite a commotion.

In 1858 an Austin resident put out his own map of Texas which we know today. Charles W. Pressler, a former Prussian, who had come to Austin in the forties, was a surveyor and map-maker, after serving as a draftsman in the land office.<sup>39</sup>

Another family started a store in 1858 at the northwest corner of Pine and Congress, which was called Robinson and Son



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store. This became the store of Alonzo Robinson by 1884, and was listed at 504 Congress because their wagon yard was really on the corner. They became another family who spanned a century in the history of Austin and Travis County.

Then it was 1859, and Dutch John Wahrenberger still was doing business up around the Avenue Hotel corner, called the clock corner. The Alhambra Hotel was at the top of the Avenue, near the capitol, and was used mainly by lawyers for their offices. William Rust was postmaster at the Avenue Hotel corner.

The Civil War was still in the future, the artesian water well in the capitol grounds was down to 543 feet, and the democrats were making merry at their fall meeting in Austin.

One does not wonder why the population of Austin increased between 1850 and 1860,—455.4%, the heaviest increase in its history, from 629 in 1850 to 3,494 in 1860.<sup>40</sup> Included were four bakers, four barbers, sixteen blacksmiths, two brewers, three beer slingers, three bookkeepers, one Comanche Indian, six gentlemen, six "sports."<sup>41</sup>

Among the many who had moved here was Mrs. Dickinson, of Alamo fame. The writings of Jerry Boerner, Austin historian, tell us that she married Joseph W. Hannig, of Lockhart in 1857. After having a hotel there, they moved to Austin and lived in the 1860's at the northwest corner of Red River and Pine Streets. Hannig opened a cabinet shop across from the Missouri House (at the southeast corner of Brazos and Sixth), then joined Matthew Kreisle in a furniture and an undertaking business conducted at two stores, one at 206 East Pecan Street, and another at the southeast corner of Congress and Ash Street, numbered 823 Congress. The Hannig's home for a long time was at Duval and 31st Street. Mrs. Hannig was 68 when she died October 7, 1883; he was younger, only 56 on January 7, 1890, when he died. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery, in Section 1, lot 363.

In the last of the 1850's in Travis County, the county and city of Austin simmered with the subject of secession.

The sixties saw Sampson and Henricks erecting their three-story building on the site of the Hall House. The Avenue Hotel opened that fall with William O. Thomas as manager, but when John L. Buaas' hall opened on June 21, 1860, with gas lamps, and a piano, and saloon, it was something extra.<sup>42</sup>

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Merchants listed their wares in ads in the local papers: John Stelfox advertised one-horse plows, and J. H. Robinson, wines and whiskeys.<sup>43</sup> And postmaster John M. Swisher was notifying the rangers, via the papers, that he was prepared to pay certain companies, with warrants, since there was no money in the till. Despite all talk of war, the Kirby residence was being built at Sixteenth and Guadalupe Streets in 1860.

Sam Houston was busy at home, welcoming a new baby, Temple Lea, born on August 12, 1860. James H. Raymond, who had come to Austin in the forties, served as first treasurer of the State of Texas, for about twelve years, and had a banking company with John M. Swisher. Raymond stayed in the banking business in Austin until he died in 1897.<sup>44</sup>

But the era was an ending of peace and prosperity for Travis County and the sixties started with a word that was to last in their memories for a century, the War, followed by reconstruction. During the summer of 1856, the *State Gazette* ads listed straw bonnets, edging, fringes, jaconet, mitts, muslin. And carpet bags! No one could know then how sick they would get of those!

Then, by March 6, 1857, the Dred Scott decision of the Supreme Court was dread. The Civil War was in the making, and John Brown in the news. And did Dan Emmett, composing "Dixie" that year, realize? Was it destiny that directed him to write the song to be played when Jefferson Davis became president of the new nation of the South, the first time the song was played by a band, to become the theme song of the South?

Tempestuous times were ahead in 1859, when Travis County folks gathered in Austin to celebrate Washington's birthday on February 22; the Quitman Rifles, parading, could not know that they would march again soon—to war.

And Sam Houston must have been concerned when the citizens serenaded him in late 1859, and he heard speeches about "our rights in the Union, or our independence out of it."<sup>45</sup>

## CHAPTER VI

# *Austin and Travis County during the days of the Confederacy, the Civil War, and Reconstruction 1861-1870*

The pattern of this pioneering story of Travis County and Austin follows the design of days that all often know, when the sunshine filters through the trees and it is sunny and gay and all is bright;—and then there are days when it is drab and dreary, and no sunshine,—only somber shadows. Austin had its sunny, gay, bright times in those days when it started out as a city; then the shadows showed up, the government was gone, and there was an archive war. Then, again, they knew the brightness in the fifties, with new buildings and businesses and homes, and Sam Houston had a heyday, as governor again, until speculation about Lincoln's election, then secession,—and once again the shadows. The Civil War. And in this era of the Civil War, only the children were without worries.

Today, in reading the history of our city and county, one looks back at the bleakness of the days of that war, and the post-war years, when the shadows criss-crossed the sunshine in the pattern of that past.

The season for shadows started in 1861. Those were the tempestuous times in Texas; secession sentiments in the capital city separated the citizens, friend from friend. This was when they watched the Travis Rifles and the Tom Green Rifles gathering in groups and going off to war. And the women organized their Needle Battalions to sew uniforms. It was a controversy over states' rights rather than slavery—and then there were parades—and prayers for peace—and arsenals and ammunition factories among them.

News like Bull Run hung heavy over their hearts, and amid it all, Sam Houston died. Casualties came home to them, and



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supplies were scarce. Four years later, in 1865, springtime saw the soldiers struggling home after the defeat of Dixie, weary with war and the folly and futility of it all. Only about one-third of the nearly six hundred from Travis County returned.

It was during this time that General Custer, of later Little Big Horn fame, camped on Shoal Creek with his soldiers. Texas knew the military rule for many years.

There was reconstruction and resentment, and recriminations, and that old bull pen in Austin. There were lawless leaders and carpetbaggers in the capital city, and the aftermath of it all, with Austin knowing the products of the times, Ben Thompson, John Wesley Hardin, and General Phil Sheridan.

Then the citizens started ahead again; they had telegraph lines, beer gardens, immigrants, public schools, baseball games, and camp meetings. The shadows were slipping out of sight. Texas longhorns were being driven to market, on the trail through Austin, and the bucket brigades were fighting fires. Cisterns were being dug for water, and fire companies were organized. And more handsome houses which are our homes of history today, were being built.

This is the story of Dixie—and those men of might who created a city, and then with war were aligned against each other. Some saw their dreams defeated; but whether they died for Dixie, or argued for the Union, there was courage in those who were in Austin and Travis County. None sinned by silence. Those who were for secession, fought for it; many against it came back later to help pick up the pieces, and rebuild. And the only real resentment in the end was against the carpetbaggers, who descended on Dixie like the vultures—and then they were all memories.



In December, 1859, just before the inauguration of his ex-enemy, Sam Houston, Mirabeau B. Lamar died, after having served as representative to Nicaragua and Costa Rica for about two years. There are colleges named for this man, known as the Father of Education in Texas, and monuments to him in his old home at Richmond. In a poem he wrote, entitled "San Jacinto," he says,

"But holier wreaths will crown the dead—  
A grateful nation's love!"

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This is probably his best eulogy, and the crown of love today, for men like Lamar and the Austins, is Texans' thanks to those monumental men.

Sam Houston gave his inaugural speech on the south stone steps at the capitol on December 21, 1859, and those who were sympathizing with the North in the flames of the feud that then seemed so far away, sensed a victory over the secessionists in Houston's election. The topics of slavery, states' rights, and secession were subjects of conversation, and the citizens selected sides, and there were group gatherings, and speakings, pro and con.

Houston's term as governor, lasting until March 16, 1861, teemed with tenseness and excitement; there was speculation about Lincoln's election, and war and secession seemed synonymous in the speeches. This was the topic they talked about; some said stay in the Union; some said secede; some even advocated reverting to being the Republic of Texas again.

There was talk about town because the office of the governor so often was closed to comers. If one wanted to see Sam Houston, he made an appointment, otherwise the "no admittance" sign signalled visitors away. "In not another Southern state, do we believe, that it will be found on the door of a governor's office. A hard-fisted yeomanry can do the voting, but they cannot enter the office of his magnified excellency. The latchstring is drawn."<sup>1</sup>

Austin saw sad days in November, 1860. The citizens were holding meetings over secession after they learned of Lincoln's election. They met at the old Pecan and Congress site once called Bullock's, then Swisher's, then E. B. Smith's, and always there were speakers. Judge Paschal argued for the Union, and against it was John R. Baylor. The loafer's log in front of the old hotel had given way to backyard benches, and daily discussions went on over secession. From the hot August days on to December, most of the citizens stopped by to join in the debates.

During the summer of 1860, papers played up incendiarism and insurrections over the state, and all this was fuel on the flames. In Austin, the *State Gazette* and the *Intelligencer* feuded over it, with the *Intelligencer* supporting Sam Houston and his views. Many claimed it was propaganda during election year.<sup>2</sup> At any rate, there was a fire in back of the Swenson building

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close to the *Southern Intelligencer* offices in July.<sup>3</sup>

The paper was publishing a petition for a Union electoral split of candidates by the national men of Texas, to vote against Lincoln, and the plea was signed by D. W. C. Baker, Robert Barr, A. J. Hamilton, M. C. Hamilton, George Hancock, John Hancock, August Palm, C. G. Palm, Swante Palm, E. M. Pease, James H. Raymond, Nat C. Raymond, S. M. Swenson, and John M. Swisher.<sup>4</sup>

There were more meetings over secession, and Sam Houston was never so dramatic as that day of November, 1860, when he pleaded for two hours from a platform north of the Baptist Church that the citizens might study the struggle confronting them, and the victory that might not be theirs. Of Sam Houston and his secession views, Robert Barr said, "In a far off way, he reminds me of Oliver Cromwell."<sup>5</sup>

At a mass meeting on December 1, 1860, Judge O. M. Roberts said secede, while Judge James Bell said wait and see. On Wednesday night, December 19, 1860, the Southern sympathizers staged a parade on the Avenue; the band played from the chariot that carried it, horse-drawn; and they stopped at certain houses for speeches by those whom they serenaded.

When South Carolina seceded in December, there was a hundred-gun salute to her at the capitol, and the citizens were selecting delegates to their secession convention. There were too many exciting issues in Travis County for the citizens to note the dramatic deeds in far away places like the pony express making its first trip west from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, and the news about it in the papers during the spring and summer of 1860. In Travis County sentiments were strong that summer, especially when George Hancock ran up the United States flag at his store at the present Scarbrough corner. After the Southerners paraded on December 19, the Union men gathered at Hancock's under the 90-foot flagpole and sang their songs. Hancock flew his flag until 1861, after Fort Sumter, when he took it down.

On January 5, 1861, three hundred took part in the parade of the secessionists. With Colonels J. S. Ford and A. J. Hopkins, and Thomas E. Sneed and William C. Walsh as organizers, the parade started from Congress and Fifth with a band, and the ladies of Austin either on horseback or in carriages, carried the



flags of the Southern states. Marching up the Avenue, they went westward to the old capitol building, where on a newly-constructed shaft, they hoisted the flag of the lone star of Texas over 100 feet high, and listened to secession speeches by Spencer Ford, John A. Green, Major Charles S. West, William Walton, and Attorney General George Flournoy, and then a 15-gun salute.

Was it a forerunner of fate that later that month a wild wind whipped the shaft, causing the flag to fall? It seemed so then to the Unionists in Austin.<sup>6</sup>

Everyone evidenced their emotions with emblems. The secessionists showed up in buggies with lone star flags in hat bands, while the Unionists used United States flags.

On January 21 the special session of the Legislature convened, and on Monday, January 28, 1861, the stormy secession convention met at the capitol, with O. M. Roberts elected as president. One wonders what Cynthia Ann Parker must have thought, just returned from being an Indian captive, and visiting the capitol during these meetings with her uncle, Colonel Parker, and Mrs. John Henry Brown and Mrs. N. C. Raymond.<sup>7</sup>

The times were most trying to those men who had governed the republic and the state, siding against each other and old friends. David G. Burnet advocated staying in the Union; Lamar had left these decisions behind him in death. Sam Houston was on the spot, but to the last he was loyal to the Union to which he had advocated annexation. It was ironic after Texas had voted itself out of the Union, that the memorable moment of joining the Confederacy came on March 2, 1861, twenty-five years after Texas' first independence day and on Sam Houston's sixty-eighth birthday. It was a memorable moment when his dreams for Texas were dimming, and on March 18 when he did not answer the call of the clerk to pledge his allegiance and loyalty to the confederacy, Lieutenant Governor Edward Clark took the oath and assumed the governorship.

There was more concern over secession than over the \$817, 827.00 deficit in the State Treasury; and there were those who were busy putting up posters ridiculing the convention at the capitol.

After Texans voted to secede, a verdict in which Travis County did not concur, they had another candlelight parade, and

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Sam Houston, sitting sorrowfully in the governor's mansion, said of the celebration going on down on the Avenue, "This great country of ours will be turned into a graveyard."<sup>8</sup>

In the late evening of the day he ended his career as governor by refusing to take the oath of allegiance to the South, Sam Houston had gone out to the home of Charles Johnson, built so recently near Deep Eddy, and arranged with him to freight Houston's belongings back to Huntsville. The next day Johnson, with four mule-team wagons, moved the old warrior's things to Huntsville. There was no glory in his going, as there had been when he had come as governor.<sup>9</sup>

Amelia Barr, in a letter she wrote in February, 1861, says of the situation, "There are you know, a great number of Yankee families here, and it is their nature to pollute everything they come in contact with, with the spirit of Mammon. There are very few that would not trade their souls for a good consideration."

And further, "The most intense feeling *over all the state* prevails for Secession & the Austin Yankees can no more carry the Day finally than they can pull the sun down . . . Mrs. Palm offered me milk, but she has a Union flag flying over Her cow house and I do not know what effect that may have on the milk."<sup>10</sup>

The Confederate States of America were formed at Montgomery, Alabama, on February 4-9, 1861, with Jefferson Davis as President. But it was not until Fort Sumter was attacked on April 12, and surrendered on April 14, that the citizens realized it was war.

The city went on about its business as usual.

When James G. Swisher, who had lived in South Austin near the Deaf School location for nearly twenty years, died in 1861, Mrs. Swisher stayed on at the home with her son, John, and continued to operate the ferry at the foot of Congress across the river, charging \$1 for a wagon; 75c for a buggy; 50c for one horse; 25c for a man on his horse; and only a dime for a school boy on a pony.

On Tuesday, March 26, there was a calico dress ball at Buaas',<sup>11</sup> and close by the Missouri House was doing business at Pecan and Brazos Streets. That summer, in July, Judge Wheeler was conducting a law school in Austin, and Judge E. D. Townes was the speaker at a summer concert at the capitol in

July, by the Austin String Band and the German Choir.<sup>12</sup> The citizens celebrated July 4, and listened to speeches in front of the Avenue Hotel.

But always in the background was the war. Preparations for attack were made, and cannons were set up at the arsenal. Cannon for the Confederates was made from brass brought in from Mexico at a place near Waller Creek, with William Carson in charge. The foundry was on Block 183, in a large building just in the middle of the north half of block between Neches and Trinity Streets. And a cap and cartridge factory was going back of the capitol in the old Supreme Court Building.<sup>13</sup>

In June, 1861, at a military meeting at the capitol, plans were made to outfit and equip the soldiers from Travis County.<sup>14</sup> Out of this need evolved the Ladies' Needle Battalion, which organized with Mrs. J. C. Darden as president. They met regularly at the capitol and sewed for the soldiers.<sup>15</sup>

It was not necessary, but the *State Gazette* of July 26, 1861, was urging all men to join the Southerners, even the ministers. Already many groups had organized. One of the first was the Travis Rifles, who became Company G, 6th Infantry, under Captain Rhoads Fisher, and their 3rd Lt., S. G. Sneed, was one of the first to die in action. The Quitman Rifles became a company in March, 1861, with Washington L. Hill as captain, and one of his assistants was William C. Walsh. On April 24, 1861, the Austin City Light Infantry organized with Captain Ben F. Carter, as the Tom Green Rifles, and became Company B of the 4th Texas Infantry. By September, 1861, Terry's Texas Rangers were in Houston on their way to join Albert Sidney Johnston in Kentucky. It was about February 22, 1862, when the Capitol Guards grouped for war.

By July, 1861, many of these companies were camped out at Barton's before leaving, via Brenham. It was in July that the Tom Green Rifles marched away, from the capitol grounds where they met, down the Avenue to Pecan, and to far away Appomattox, under General Lee. It is fitting that the later monument to the Confederate dead be placed in the capitol grounds, just about where they met when they marched off to war, some not to return.

When troops from other towns passed through Austin on their way, they were met and escorted by the Austin City Light



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Infantry, under Captain Herman Wilke, out to Lamar's cottage near College Hill, and usually there was a parade and a dinner at the Avenue Hotel.<sup>16</sup>

Military grounds were on the Costley farm about six miles southeast of Austin, and another was on Onion Creek, where the soldiers drilled.<sup>17</sup>

The Unionists were busy, too. At Hancock's store during April, 1861, they were meeting upstairs, and organized a Home Guard, which drilled and marched too. Until Fort Sumter. Not all those who were there were the unders or overs. Included were John T. Allen, James H. Bell, Thomas H. Duval, William P. de Normandie, A. J. and Morgan Hamilton, John Hancock, Dr. Lane, Dr. Litten, E. M. Pease, and E. B. Turner.<sup>18</sup> It took the news of Fort Sumter to sober them all, then they disbanded and later many of them left the locale.

When the news of Fort Sumter was received on April 18, guns were fired at the capitol, and soldiers paraded on the Avenue.<sup>19</sup>

There were other worries beside the war. That summer of 1861 saw a drought; water supplies were waning; potatoes were \$2 a bushel; and the black tongue took its toll of thousands of animals. This was the time when trade with Mexico started, and Wilbarger's trace was the road to travel.

On May 11 the Lunatic Asylum opened its doors, with about a dozen patients, and George Glasscock was praised for his construction work.<sup>20</sup> During the years that followed new buildings were completed, including laundries, and the following served as superintendents there until the century ended: Dr. John C. Perry, 1857-58; Dr. C. T. Keenan, 1858-60; Dr. B. Graham, 1860-61; Dr. J. N. Steiner, 1861-65; Dr. Graham again until about 1870, with Dr. W. P. Beall serving during 1866-67; Dr. J. A. Corley, 1870-71; Dr. G. F. Weiselberg, 1871-74; Dr. D. R. Wallace, 1874-79; Dr. M. E. Saunders, 1879-81; Dr. L. J. Graham, 1881-83; Dr. A. N. Denton, 1883-87; Dr. J. S. Dorset, 1887-91; Dr. W. W. Reeves, 1891-92; Dr. F. S. White, 1892-95; Dr. C. T. Simpson, 1895-96; Dr. B. M. Worsham, 1896-1909.

Dr. Josephus N. Steiner was superintendent from 1861-65, and his son Ralph was born in the turbulent times of about 1859, later becoming an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist and state health officer.<sup>21</sup>

## *Austin and Travis County, 1861-1870*

Concern in 1861 was with the war, and Professor Schutz contributed his bit with a concert that netted \$150 for aid for the soldiers. At his concert he played his own composition, "The Sun Kissed South."<sup>22</sup>

The same Soldiers Aid Society benefitted from a supper served at the inauguration on November 7, 1861, of Governor Lubbock, when the ladies dressed in calico to serve, and collected \$400.<sup>23</sup>

The humor of the hour was not directed at Lubbock, however, when the *State Gazette* of April 20, 1861, said of the well at the capitol being down to 1,000 feet, "It will be a more useful bore, we trust, than the late one in the executive office."

When Judge E. J. Townes resigned his senatorial position from Travis County, A. J. Hamilton succeeded him.

1862 was the year when the people found out what a difference war can make in the economy. The ad valorem tax was doubled from 12½ cents in 1861, to 25 cents in 1862, and was to double again to 50 cents in 1863 and 1864,—poll taxes, too, went up in 1862, from 50 cents to \$1.<sup>24</sup>

About March, 1862, another group gathered, as Company G, 16th Texas Volunteer Infantry, under Captain F. W. Moore—and on the same date, the *State Gazette* said, "To the Dodgers, short grass, scant rations, and the white feather."

In that month of March, 1862, one of Austin's first citizens, Dutch John Wahrenberger, died. But war work went on; over in the 600 block of West Fourteenth Street R. H. Raatz did his bit by making powder horns for the soldiers.

The stories of the Monitor and the Merrimac meant war, and hopes were high that March, 1862, when the Merrimac supposedly won a naval victory.

Texas could brag of over sixty thousand soldiers in the Confederate grey. Travis County could claim many of these, and relief was being provided for families of these men.

The citizens were saddened by the death of Ben McCulloch, and on March 7, 1862, his funeral services were held at the capitol. One of Austin's early citizens, John Henry Brown, came back to give the oration at the capitol. But still sadder news was coming. General Albert Sidney Johnston, also an early citizen, was killed at Shiloh, and later in April, 1862, New Orleans was captured. There seemed to be no good news. In

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October, 1862, Captain Ben Carter sent back the flag that his Tom Green Rifles had carried into battle, with sixty bullet holes in it.<sup>25</sup> As the year was ending, the citizens saw the Avenue Hotel closing its doors, with the equipment in it for sale. And Ben Thompson was patrolling a beat in Ward #2.<sup>26</sup>

From 1863 to June 17, 1865, Governor Pendleton Murrah served with Lieutenant Governor Fletcher Stockdale, and Texans were proud of Governor Lubbock, who went out of the governor's office to put on his Confederate uniform and act as aide to Jefferson Davis.

It was during these times that many men from Austin were freighting goods for the government down to El Paso. Others were hauling cotton for S. M. Swenson, and these teamsters returning from Mexico hid oranges in the false beds of their wagons, and then sold them for \$1 apiece in Austin.

On the other side, B. J. Smith, at his school, had the girls knitting, and each had a quota of six pair of socks to hand in for the soldiers.

Out on Little Walnut Creek at Dillingham's, long before it became a legend to University students, the father of H. N. Dillingham was furnishing the Confederates with cattle, and having some skirmishes with the Yanks in the 1860's. This place, called Dillingham's pasture, a 232-acre grassy spot, with its oaks and cedar and pecan trees, and cactus and squirrels in a background of trumpet and wood vines, found fame later as the place where the students showed up as perennially as the grass in the springtime, and it became a rendezvous for their romancing. Dillingham had an old slave bell on the place, and just to be sure the coeds got back to the campus on time, he always rang the bell to remind them.

In 1863, while the Federals held Galveston, David Richardson was in Austin, working on his Texas Almanac. He replaced John Marshall as editor of the *State Gazette*, a position later occupied by John Holland. This paper went on under editors John Elliott and Joseph Walker; and it operated as the *Texas State Gazette*, *Weekly State Gazette*, and the *Tri-Weekly State Gazette* during its time.<sup>27</sup>

On March 18, 1863, Sam Houston in a speech at Houston, said: ". . . I have been buffeted by the waves, as I have been borne along time's ocean, until shattered and worn, I approach



the narrow isthmus, which divides it from the sea of eternity beyond. Ere I step forward to journey through the pilgrimage of death, I would say, that all my thoughts and hopes are with my country. If one impulse rises above another, it is for the happiness of the people; the welfare and glory of Texas will be the uppermost thought, while the spark of life lingers in this breast."<sup>28</sup>

On July 26, 1863, four months later, he died at his home in Huntsville, after seeing the flag of the Confederacy flying over the land he loved. The citizens were saddened by his death, but more concerned with the casualties of the war.

On July 4, there was a barbecue and celebration out at Matthews mill, later the site of Chambers mill.<sup>29</sup>

Families of soldiers were being given food and supplies by the Sons of the South, but conditions were serious. Supplies were scarce and some storekeepers were selling only to those with cash or coin, or gold, while there were suggestions in the *State Gazette* that stores were saving supplies for a monopoly.

During the February term of the Travis County Commissioners Court in 1863, Edward Swisher was arranging for a rate increase for ferrying across the river, to two dollars for loaded wagons, and one dollar for unloaded wagons. Dogs, goats, sheep cost a nickel, a horse or cattle cost ten cents. If one were walking he paid a dime; on horseback, a quarter; and driving a wagon fifty cents. At night all these fees were doubled. By 1864, the county tax rate had increased to fifty cents per hundred dollars valuation.

July was a joner, with news of Lee's loss at Gettysburg, July 1-3, and Vicksburg going to Grant on July 4. By August farmers in Travis County were being asked to share their products, and Judge E. J. Townes gave a hogshead of sugar for soldiers' families in Austin. In 1862, John Caldwell had donated his complete crop of 160 bales of cotton to the Confederate cause.

General Magruder, who had arrived in Texas in March, was busy later in the year building the fort in Travis County that was named for him. Located south of Austin high on a bluff, just off the Post Road to the west, it was started when Galveston was captured and the belief prevailed that Texas would be invaded. Volunteers helped build this fort, supplies were stock-

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ed, ditches were dug around it, and recruits were stationed there for a few weeks. Finally, it became Fort Folly. Today only a few know the location, and only the road marker remains.

About this S. M. Swenson wrote to R. H. Taylor on March 20, 1863: "Genl. Magruder is here and officials are very busy dancing attendance; if our governor pays as much homage to the Angel of Light, he will probably be saved from eternal damnation."<sup>30</sup>

Then on November 19 came the Gettysburg address.

It was during 1863 that Thomas Anderson operated his powder mill out in Cypress Creek Valley in northwest Travis County, about 18 miles northwest of Austin. Miss Lucy Anderson of Austin remembers the stories of her grandfather about this; how far away on another creek, the banks of the Brandywine in Delaware, the Duponts were pioneering in powder making for the Union Army, while the South was using gun powder from Anderson's Mill on the banks of the Cypress. After the war, in the 1870's, this resourceful man modernized his place with irrigation from a tank, with a hand-made hydraulic ram and with pipe he hauled from Brenham by oxen.

There was other activity in the hills of Travis County west of Austin during the war years, especially after the legislature in December, 1861, made men between 18 and 50 eligible for military duty. Harold Preece, in an article in the Austin and Travis County Collection of the Austin Public Library, tells about the hardships of the hill folks during the war. Many, sympathizing with the North, would not serve with the South, so they were sought as evaders and soon set up their own spy system among their people in the hill country. They helped Governor Hamilton when he, too, was in the hills, and when he left the Austin area for Mexico in April, 1863, he had with him about 16 of these people, called the "Mountain Rangers." Many of these people were being sought for a reward of \$30 per head. Once when Mr. Lohmann of the crossing of that name came to Austin to trade, he barely escaped hanging twice, once at a chinaberry tree near Miller's Stable on Bois d' Arc Street off Congress, and again down near the courthouse and jail. Frank Brown tells of this in his *Annals of Travis County*.<sup>31</sup>

Many others living in Travis County today remember stories their grandparents told of these times. Ralph Schneider re-

calls one his grandmother told of the Yankee prisoner who escaped and found his way to her house. Because she felt sorry for him she hid him in the loft, and that night gave him a sun-bonnet and women's wear to dress in for his attempt to get away. The next morning as she went to early Mass, she saw his body hanging at Congress and Pecan,—and so the stories go.

The situation was more serious by 1864, and the County Commissioners Court records for February, 1864, show certifications that the following doctors were needed in Travis County and not in the war: R. N. Lane, J. N. Litten, A. H. Parish, ..... Rentfro, H. Shearer, and M. A. Taylor.

There was comment about the legislature meeting: "The legislature is here again, but for what object they are convened, we are yet in the dark, although we presume we shall be informed in due course of time."<sup>32</sup>

Hotels were closed, and many legislators slept in wagons. People were making coffee by parching and grinding corn, rye, or potatoes. Corn also was used to make molasses, and there was a brewery on the banks of the Colorado River at the foot of Lavaca Street.

General Tom Green died during these days, and June 19, 1864, when the Alabama was sunk, must have been a foreboding of what was to follow. Lincoln was reelected, and Texans who talked then about Sherman's march through Georgia, could not know that it would take more than a century for the South to forget it.

While some were giving benefits at Buaas' Hall for soldiers and their families, and having tableaux, the Negroes of Travis County were giving benefits to help. And far, far away, Karl Marx, a name to be known in the future, was busy about other things—he was organizing working men's associations even then.

East Austin was the scene of three murders and the three Willis brothers were arrested and jailed in Leander Brown's building at Bois d' Arc and Brazos Streets. A mob later took them out East Pecan Street to a site east of East Avenue, north of Pecan Street, and hanged them to three oak trees there.<sup>33</sup>

On July 31, 1864, the home of A. J. Hamilton, east of Austin, burned.<sup>34</sup> Hamilton had moved to Austin in 1849 from La Grange and had been Attorney General. His house, built by him and his father, had portholes for windows and solid blind



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doors for protection from Indians. During the war they left, and their home was burned. It was rebuilt in 1871 by Hamilton, called Fair Oaks, and one of the old oaks still stands at the rear of the house. It was located on 200 acres of land bought in 1853, which was originally the Judge Webb place, where Lamar often visited. It is easy to envision it as it must have been then, when the front lawn extended from its location north of East Twelfth Street down to the river. Today it can be seen east of Rosewood Park, and the grove there is still serene, and the house still has its bay windows and balconies, although the parquet floors have been covered with asphalt tile. The pictures show the house as it stands, and part of the old front yard and gate, of days that are gone.

It was in the same year, 1864, that John Hall Phillips built his place out near where the City Park is in 1962. The log cabin built with slave labor is there, reminiscent of the days when Mrs. Phillips was postmistress of Ogarita. The Indian name was given their place by the Phillips, who were descendants of Pocahontas. Mail came up to Ogarita by the later steamboat, "Belle of Austin," and people from the hills west of Austin got their mail there. Pictures show the old cabin, with original logs and chimney, as it was then, and is, in the western hills near the City Park.

Then, Travis County knew tragic times in 1865. All the news coming in was bad; Lee surrendering to Grant at Appomattox, Lincoln being shot and dying the next day; and Andrew Johnson succeeding him.

The year started out with the Commissioners Court in January, 1865, taxing the distilleries \$100 and 1½% on gross sales, and retailers the same, with other provisions. Carl Mayer Jewelry Store was started in 1865, and Abner H. Cook was named to go to Huntsville and purchase cotton cloth for Travis County.

By February plans were being made for a Soldiers' Home, and in May, Governor Murrah, speaking to the legislature, commented on law being dead and dishonored in Travis County; and the citizens that same month raided the arsenal for ammunition for protection.

June saw not those perfect days, but disorderly ones. There was a raid on the State Treasury on the night of June 11; citi-

zens gathered at the Dieterich Building when word was whispered of the looting of the Treasury; then men marched up Congress to Mesquite Street, on back of the Baptist Church, past the pickets posted by the looters, and with the help of some troops stationed on the river, routed the raiders.

General Gordon Granger, arriving in Galveston as military commander, read the proclamation freeing the slaves on June 19, which is the reason that is the date celebrated by Texas Negroes. It was just before the current cotton crop was to be picked, and when laborers left, the crop was a loss. Negroes in Travis County awaited the arrival of the military, expecting land to be given them, and disorder was the order of the day.

In those days Texas was a lawless land, and Governor Murrah, powerless to protect and concerned for his safety, left for Mexico, where he died later. Many other ex-Confederates, mostly army officers, were streaming through Austin, on their way to Mexico, and General Philip Sheridan, down on the border that summer of 1865, must have been irked that so many escaped to Mexico. Many known in Austin were among them: ex-Governor Edward Clark, William P. Hardeman, General John Bankhead Magruder, A. W. Terrell, O. M. Roberts, and W. S. Oldham. Carlotta and Maximilian welcomed the group, but when the support of Napoleon and the French was withdrawn and the troops left, their empire crumbled.

In late July, 1865, troops came to Austin, and up again went the flagpole at Hancock's store corner. The military men stopped there and sent up the stars and stripes. As of old, there was celebrating again and speeches by George W. Paschal and E. B. Turner. George Hancock, surprisingly, declined to speak when called upon. Was it because he felt badly as he looked across the street to the Dieterich corner and saw too many of his old friends—men who, too, had made Austin, standing there among the secessionists, silently watching the festivities at Hancock's corner?

A flag went up at the capitol too, and General Merritt and his men set up quarters there.<sup>35</sup> It was a sad city, indeed, when A. J. Hamilton, coming back as Provisional Governor of Texas, reached here on August 2, and an escort met him out at his old home place in East Austin, and there was a parade to the capitol and the Star Spangled Banner was sung. July 4 was celebrated

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with guns going.

In October, 1865, General Sturgis and his soldiers were here, from the 6th Regiment of U. S. Cavalry, and 1st Iowa Volunteer Cavalry and 7th and 12th Indiana Cavalry, and set up their camps on Shoal Creek, where they stayed until spring, 1866.<sup>36</sup> They were then mustered out, and the 6th U. S. Cavalry took over the town.

One wonders about those soldiers stationed in Austin during post-war days, and their thoughts as they passed the little lads of the town fishing in Shoal Creek and Little Shoal Creek, where the soldiers went to water the horses. As they patrolled the town, they saw the Austin girls who gathered at the stake and rider fence around the Robinson place between Seventh and Eighth Streets on Rio Grande Street, and who watched the soldiers passing by on their way from camp to the creek. They must have sensed that the young men of Austin had instructed their sisters never to speak to those Yankee soldiers as they passed by the stake and rider fence.

They must have been lonely those nights out in their little tent town as they sensed the feelings of passersby looking in at their lamps and bunks. Because later, when they set up a larger camp and the old bull pen, no Austin boy or man lingered long out that way, particularly near the old bull pen that knew all colors, all citizens, about thirty of them a day, who were jailed there after clashes over the defeat of Dixie. The stables were north of the bull pen, and the soldiers went out of their way to water their horses at Little Shoal, to pass by the girls and the old stake and rider fence.

These were the days when Amelia Barr lived back of the capitol at the Morris house, and was all bound round by that 6th Cavalry, who camped for a time back of the capitol. The Neill-Cochran place became their hospital, and the backyard a cemetery for those of the soldiers who died.

Sad days were the lot of Austin then, because under the military government the soldiers built that bull pen on the way to the dam. Gustave Johnson, son of the man who moved Sam Houston to Huntsville, has pointed out the site as being just south of the West Fifth Street underpass and near the old oak tree on the new West First Street route off of Lake Austin Boulevard.



## *Austin and Travis County, 1861-1870*

In that spring of 1866, when the volunteers were mustered out, that 6th Cavalry broke up camp on Shoal Creek and moved west of there where they set up their small city with its own streets. It was located around the West Sixth Street area, north and east of the underpass. On the hills there they had the drainage they desired, with water available for their stock from the river, and from the ravines on both sides which ran into the river.

They stabled their horses northwest of the little city, and soon had a tent city set up for the men and officers. As always, the officers got the best ground, had heat from stoves, and were furnished oil lamps or candles. The tent quarters for the soldiers had floors though, and they were assigned four to each tent. Each man had his own bunk and blanket, but the blanket was not needed in Texas. The commanding officer conducted his business in town, and the hospital was moved from the Neill-Cochran place to a building on West Pecan.

But what really disturbed the citizens was that bull pen, or guardhouse. It was built close to the old oak tree south of the underpass, which placed it on the west side of their little city square. It was built of heavy lumber, 20x30x10, and described as circular, about 150 feet round it, and no roof. It was constructed by setting logs about 15 feet long in the ground on ends, and atop this around the pen they put a plank guard walk. This was near the top, on the outside, and guards walked there and watched the prisoners. The old caliche soil of the area was the floor of the bull pen, and there was no protection for the prisoners from the weather, or the mud and spring and summer rains and sun, until tents were finally furnished.<sup>37</sup>

This old bull pen knew them all. Men were arrested for any and everything, for selling liquor to the soldiers, even for singing "Dixie."

One of the prisoners was Ben Thompson, who grew up to a gunman's glory in Austin while his father was a commercial fisherman down in the east end of town. Thompson was only about 22 years old then, having been born November 11, 1842, in Knottingly, England. Not quite six feet tall, with blue eyes and black hair, he was familiar in Austin as a printer, professionally, then a gambler and a gunman, and later as marshal in the '80's. Perhaps many of the men who were gunmen of the

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era were the result of resentment and recrimination over reconstruction. Maybe the evil in them was encouraged by the times, secession and men marching and fighting; Thompson was among them until he got into difficulties in Colonel John R. Baylor's regiment. He later served on the Rio Grande and also in Maximilian's army in Mexico.

In Austin he married the daughter of Martin Moore of the crossing, and when his brother got into trouble for killing a soldier stationed here, Ben Thompson helped him hide out around Duval, a community in northern Travis County, and then to escape to the Indian territory. Ben was arrested and saw solitude in the bull pen, and he got out only for the long walk to town each day, with guards, to his trial, which lasted for five weeks, after which Huntsville was his home for two years. Then he went with the cattle drives to Abilene, where he had a saloon with Phil Coe and where his wife and children joined him. Then Phil Coe was shot by Wild Bill Hickok, and later Thompson returned to Austin, where he was soon shooting it up at the saloons or the gambling tables. Then, for a time, he seemed to settle down and quit drinking and gambling, and ran for marshal. When he was defeated he really went on a spree, and we see him again in the '80's when he was elected marshal in Austin.

Governor A. J. Hamilton was in office until August, 1866, and although he had left the state during the war, his fairness during reconstruction was evidenced, and he was respected for his rule. During the days of the Civil War, both before he left and during the time he was governor, he used to go out to a scenic spot in Travis County about 30 miles southwest of Austin, known as Hamilton's pool, to rest and relax.

Were he alive today, he might stand on the bluff overlooking the pool below that has his name, and reminisce, "I wandered to the hill . . . to watch the scene below, the creek . . . as we used to long ago."

The pool is 95 feet down from the horseshoe-shaped bluff that surrounds it, and the scene below is not serene like it was long, long ago. Today, on weekends and holidays, it teems with tourists, students, vacationers, and visitors. Only the swallows have the same schedule as they used to long ago. They still come in April and depart in August. And the buggies and sur-

ries and wagons have been replaced by Chevrolets, Cadillacs, jaloppies, and Jeeps.

From the high bluff above, Basin Creek catapults down into the hollow below, forming a waterfall above the pool, and from this pool the creek below continues on its way to the Pedernales River nearly a mile away. Hamilton Pool is in the same setting as a century ago, of cypress, elm, sycamore trees, tall Texas timber, towering almost up to the bluff above.

All the land surrounding this pool was part of a 160-acre tract acquired over a century ago under Texas' homestead act by a settler named Hamilton, supposedly a brother or a cousin of Governor Hamilton, who probably came with the governor to Texas in 1840. Then only an old Indian trail led down to the pool, where the water was 35 feet deep; nearby were the rock remains of the old log cabin of that first settler there, named Hamilton.

B. J. Reimers, whose father owned the place later, found the pool when he was hunting cattle. They lived on land about four miles east, which was part of their 3500 acres. Reimers' horse was afraid to get near the bluff, and finally Reimers found the old Indian trail leading down, and the next Sunday brought his family to show them. They tied a long ladder to cedar trees on top of the bluff to get down to the pool.

Watt Puryear, on Single Hill nearby, was another oldtimer who lived there during Indian days, trading with them while they camped near the pool. There was tall grass then, and it was burned to keep the Indians out.

Here, Governor Hamilton came to seek seclusion during the times of reconstruction in Texas. Were he to revisit the secluded spot today, he would not find the serenity of a century ago, but who knows, maybe then when he wandered there to the hill to watch the scene below, he was inspired to write some of the speeches for which he became known as the outstanding orator of our state. In any case, "Colossal Jack" as he was called, was not more colossal than the bluff and the hollow and the pool that he visited long, long ago.

In February, 1866, Governor Hamilton called the Reconstruction Convention to meet, and placed the Texas constitution as it was before secession in the government again. There were skirmishes between the two factions, and they adjourned after



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two months. By June there was the first general election after the war, and by August they had new officials. From August 20, 1866, the constitutional government ruled until March, 1867.

At this time the Texas Immigration and Land Agency was started in Austin by E. M. Pease, M. C. Hamilton, John Hancock, and others.

General Custer and his men were camped at Seiders Spring in 1865, and elections were held the summer of 1866, with J. W. Throckmorton, sympathizer of the South, defeating E. M. Pease for governor. "Old Leatherneck," as Throckmorton was called, served from August 9, 1866, to August 8, 1867, and peace was seemingly on the way again. It was not until 1867 that Governor Throckmorton was to know tense times again.

The Avenue Hotel was open again and operating under Mrs. Crosby and Mrs. Haynie. The Governor's mansion was being repaired, and the citizens wanted landscaping at the capitol grounds, which the local paper said was still a pasture. The Iron Front Saloon, at 605 Congress, started about 1866, with deer heads and trophies to give it atmosphere. Austin in 1866 had the appearance of a serene city, despite all the undercurrent. Military rule replaced elected officials with appointed officials, and that these were turbulent times was reflected in the fact that the marshal was changed three times, from James McQuire to John Cauldfield and then to W. F. Farr.

In March, 1867, many of the citizens rode out to the mouth of Little Cypress Creek, to see the huge heron, six feet tall, that John M. King had shot.

There was agitation for a new city hall, and the *Tri-Weekly Republican* of November 19, 1867, wrote of the city cemetery of fourteen acres, of which one-fourth is "occupied by its sleeping tenants."

That first Reconstruction Act of March 2, 1867, placed the power of reconstruction in Congress, instead of in the President, and despite President Johnson's battling it out over policies to prevail, he was later impeached and acquitted. But Congress ruled, and the radicals went to work, thus beginning a period of more miserable memories for the already shocked South. Military forces were to be ended in the South, but the radicals soon had their own forces empowered to act, many of whom were Negroes, especially during Governor Davis' term.

By July, 1867, no flags were flying, and Governor Throckmorton took down the portraits of Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis before he left. Because leave he did. He had been pushed between the people of Texas who had elected him, and General Sheridan who was placed in command of Texas.

It was in July that Governor Throckmorton, who had fought for Texas at all times, was ousted, and E. M. Pease was appointed Governor by General Sheridan in August, 1867, and he served until September 30, 1869, when he resigned. And during these times, E. J. Davis was in the Supreme Court. Texas truly was in the throes of the radicals from then on.

And General Sheridan. His name soon became synonymous with that of General Sherman. In all the bitterness and bias, at least there was some humor. It all started with Sheridan saying in 1865, that "if he owned Texas and Hell, he would rent out Texas and move to Hell," and the comment of that Texan who replied that he "always admired a man who would stand up for his home country!"<sup>38</sup>

This was the year Union Leagues were organized by former Union men to lead Negroes to freedom, and Republicans under Davis and Pease organized in Austin in July, after a June organization in Houston. Secret meetings were going on at the Shot Tower and at the courthouse, and the Freedmen's Bureau was operating. In September, 1867, people were registering to vote; many were rejected, and it was termed a swindle and a farce by the *Austin State Gazette* of September 28, 1867, with the outgrowth of it all being the Ku Klux Klan.

It was about this time, in 1867, that America got a bargain in buying Alaska, in March, at a price that amounted to about two cents an acre.<sup>39</sup> And our nation had a new neighbor when the Dominion of Canada was formed on July 1, 1867.

During 1868, when General Joseph J. Reynolds was in Austin, he formed two dominant groups, with the radicals following E. J. Davis and the more conservative finding a leader in A. J. Hamilton.

In 1868, there was a military post at Austin, about a mile from the capitol, southeast of the city, at the site of Palm School. Wooden buildings covered the five-acre site in a square, with the officers' quarters and commissary building on the north side, hospital and barracks on the south, the adjutant's office,

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reading room, and married soldiers' quarters on the east, and the surgeon's office, stables, and storehouse on the west. This government installation was in Austin until 1870, when it was moved to San Antonio.

The Constitutional Convention met on June 1, 1868, and battled bitterly, with resentment reaching a new high against former Unionists, Negroes, and carpetbaggers; no constitution came out of this convention, and they tried again in December, also futilely.

Anthony Deffenbaugh, who had fought for Texas' independence, came back and lived in Austin, later being one of the founders of the *Austin Statesman*; and the feud between the *Gazette* and the *Austin Daily Republican* went on. Both parties, the Democrats and the Republicans were meeting that summer, with barbecues out at Horst's place, north of Magnolia Street near Waller Creek.

If you had lived in Austin in 1868, you could have stopped that summer for soda water at Alexander and Thompson's Drug Store, then opposite the Sampson-Henricks Building—cold soda water, with ice made in Austin!

Many were familiar with the Sampson-Henricks Building; it belonged for a time to Mrs. Wahrenberger—remember Dutch John of early Austin? Serving their city after the Civil War were ones like William C. Walsh, who was wounded in the war, and then started a local quarry in Austin and was Land Commissioner later. His father was one of those first settlers. John M. Swisher, too, came back and started the street railway system later.<sup>40</sup>

Saunders and Washington store had Austin's first velocipede for sale that fall of 1869; there were horse races in June; and Mr. Paggi was selling ice for five cents a pound. And a lot on Congress Avenue, in Block 97 just south of Long's stable on the east side, sold for \$3,860 on April 1, 1869.<sup>41</sup>

Beiberstein's store had the best hint for some who were in Austin then; they were advertising carpetbags for sale to "disappointed carpetbaggers."<sup>42</sup>

There were many hectic happenings in 1869. From Saturday, July 3, to Wednesday, July 7, the rains came, with all the other troubles. And there was a rise of over 40 feet in the river, the highest in its history, but the bluff at the foot of



Congress Avenue took care of the town. However, backwater came up in Shoal and Waller Creeks, and West Pecan was under water around Rio Grande Street and West Avenue, and then the water edged up over the bluff at the foot of the Avenue and crept up to about Cypress Street. In October, 1870, there was another 36-foot rise in the river.

General Grant became President in 1869, and the nation was conscious of Friday, September 24, 1869, as being Black Friday. It was during this year that the South started the sentiment for their dead in the Civil War, and so Memorial Day, on May 30, became official.

Governor Pease resigned in September, 1869, as the military men were busy rewriting the constitution. Then election time came under orders, and it was Hamilton versus Davis; finally, General Reynolds belatedly announced Davis' election, and he began the regime that lasted from 1870 to 1874.

Two things about Davis were patent to the people—he was a carpetbagger to them, and a Republican. He did not disappoint them in their expectation of the worst; he started the state police; elections were delayed; and officers were appointed often by him.

But the citizens sometimes rebelled. One of them, A. H. Cook, Jr., had difficulties when he tried to register to vote because he was "engaged in the rebellion as a soldier." After Cook wrote some letters to the editor of the paper, which were published, General Reynolds let him register to vote.<sup>43</sup>

By March 30, 1870, Texas was again in the Union, but under General Reynolds things went from worse to worst, and radical rule lasted until January, 1874, when Governor Richard Coke came in.

By July, 1870, the people were protesting, but it was to be a long time before peace again seeped into the South, and of Texas it was said, "The state was flooded with fortune seekers, and adventurers from the North, who came to be known as Carpetbaggers, because it was said, they came with all their possessions in a single carpetbag. Southerners who joined in the Reconstruction, as members of the Republican Party, were known as Scalawags."<sup>44</sup>

It is to them, the carpetbaggers, scalawags, and the rest of the radicals, that the credit goes for the fact that Dixie never

died. But for them, the war might have been forgotten; the bitterness they brought with them to reconstruction and the rebuilding in Texas, and the South, made them memorable.

It was many years after the war when Life Magazine, in its "Dixieland" edition, asked the question, "Is there still a Dixie?" And it was a Texan, George M. Bailey, who answered that question in the Houston Post in his column, and he wrote:

"Yes, there is still a Dixie. A Dixie in the hearts of some of us older ones, and in that realm of the spirit, fancy may summon visions of the most beautiful of scenes, the loveliest of faces, and days of cloudless blue!

"Dixie, the East to which those of us who stand on the rim of the fading day turn in devotion, while the shadows creep!

"Dixie, the Glory Land of the Past, the golden bourne of memory's silent rambles, the hallowed Solitude in whose cool depths the lost chords of life breathe their music into the soul!

"Dixie, Love's Shadowland, peopled with the unfettered spirits of the noble and the great, redolent of memories that do not die because they cluster about things immortal, templed with the dream-fabrics of a nation that drew from out of God's boundless deep, and after four years of romance, poetry and glory, turned again Home!

"Dixie, the Beautiful and Glorious, the sweetest chapter of History, the noblest Epic of the ages, the Light of Yesteryear whose effulgence gilds the crest of Time's swift onward tide!

"Dixie, the stainless Mother of the Nation, the indestructible Kingdom of the Twilight—Dixie, the incomparable South of our dreams!

"Yes, there still is a Dixie."



This quadrangle map shows Travis County. Note locations of Chau-tauqua Grounds, on lake, the ferry at Stone's Ford, Seiders Spring, Santa Monica Springs.





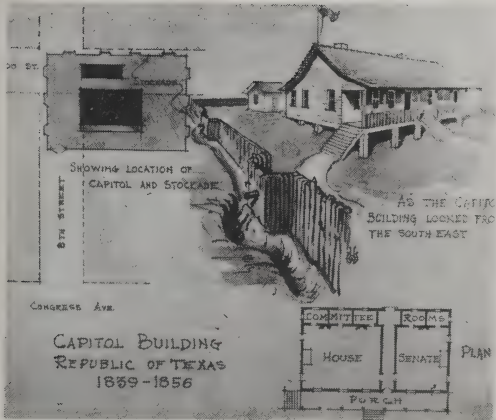
(Note: L.B. refers to the Republic of Texas No. 53 Magazine, Street, New Orleans.)

Surveyed by L.J. Pike & Co. Schoolfield  
 Drawn by L.J. Pike, 1830.

Map of original layout of Austin



Austin soon after its founding  
in 1839



Capitol, Republic of Texas, in  
Austin



Bullock's Hotel





Mormon Falls at Shoals in River



Mormons Springs





Avenue Hotel



Anderson's Mill in operation  
during the Civil War



Capitol Building on present  
site of Capitol



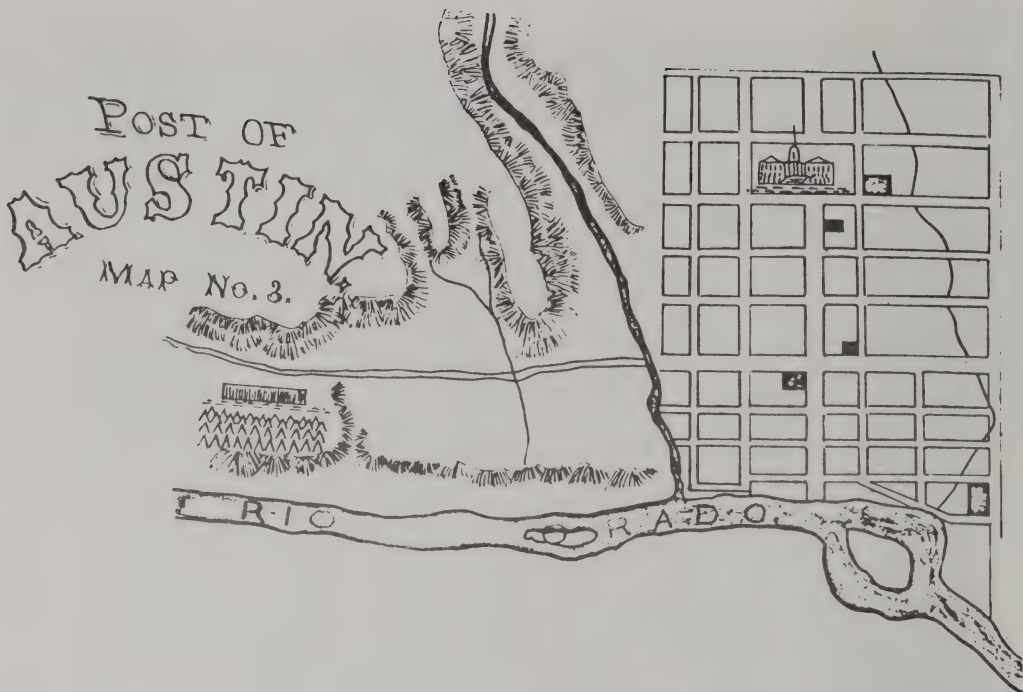
West of Capitol grounds—Abner Cook's home right, front





Governor's Mansion. Note fence in foreground around Capitol.





Map of War Department showing layout of army headquarters and bull pen after Civil War.



Congress Avenue in 1860. Note Capitol at head of Avenue, and Liberty Pole at left; also famed flag pole of war days.



Tight rope walker on Avenue, 1867. Note Governor Pease in carriage.



NEG. NO. 415.

Picture looking north from courthouse shows building of new Capitol in foreground and of Main Building at University in 1883.





First National Bank and building in 1890's, Sixth and Congress.



Confederate Home - drive out West Sixth Street and see this now.



Interior of bank. Note O. Henry back of counter, with mustache.



U. S. Post Office and Hancock's building, Austin National Bank with sign in front, in 1890's.



Interior of Austin National Bank. Left to right, C. M. Bartholomew, Wm. H. Folts, C. W. Gilfillan, Morris Hørshfeld, E. P. Wilmot.





City Hospital



Eclipse Stables



Burning of temporary Capitol



1881 City Officials, left to right, top row: Capt. J. W. Howard, C. D. Johns, Ben Thompson, marshal, and (unknown) Bottom row, Fred A. Sterzing, Mayor W. A. Saylor, Dr. R. H. L. Bibb.



Policemen and Mounties after 1900





First Baptist Church



St Patrick's Church



St. David's Church



Tenth Street Methodist  
and St. Mary's



Negro Baptist Church at corner  
of Ninth and Guadalupe Streets  
(where library is), and Negro  
Methodist Church at Ninth and  
San Antonio Streets with school  
between.





Home of Governor Hamilton



Home of Governor Davis



Original house of Johnson family, now home of American Legion.



Amelia Barr's School



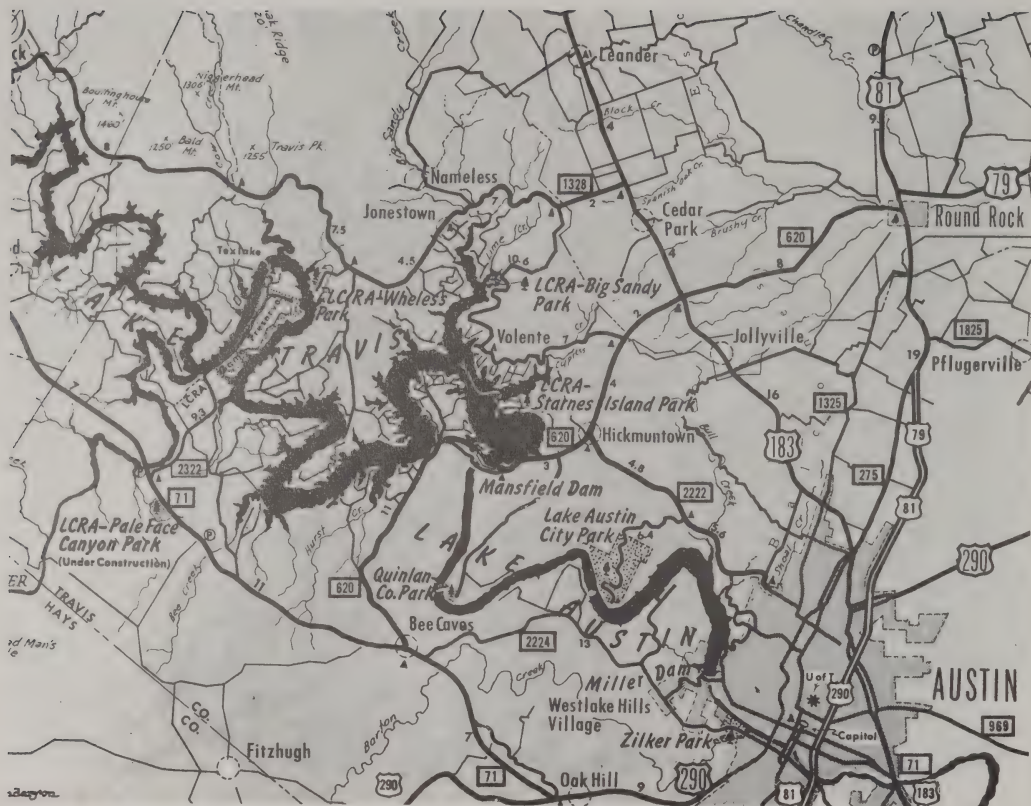


Home of Col. House, West Avenue



House in Bremond Block





Nameless, Texas



High-Low Road — West Seventh Street

## CHAPTER VII

# *The development of Austin and Travis County during the years,*

1870-1899

Texas was again a state, Austin was its capital city, and "Dixie" was a song with many memories. This was the era of grading and graveling the streets, building bridges, schools, and the Sunday law. A monument was erected in the capitol grounds to the Confederate dead who "died for states' rights, guaranteed under the constitution."

The citizens played croquet, went to the circus, had horse races, and boat races. Conventions were called for the Democrats, the taxpayers, the Republicans; health measures were enacted; there was an ice man.

They progressed to utilities like gas and electric lights, had operas, banks, street markers, railroads, dams, a city directory, a board of trade, oil men, street cars, street lamps, and the Grange. They paraded for the prominent people who visited Travis County, had fun at the fair each fall, but still knew fevers and floods and droughts.

There were new sidewalks, a new courthouse and jail, and asylums for those who needed them. This was the era of big men and the capitol and college and hotels they built still stand.

Medicine men came and went, and Austin ladies laid aside their bonnets, fancy or otherwise, and began the informality that Austin still knows.

There was summer school at the University of Texas; Austin was in the Texas League; folks went out to old Gem Lake and to the new dam. Dances were called Germans, and there were serenades.

Open houses and calling were customary on New Year's Day, and the citizens enjoyed the Iconoclast and the Rolling Stone, were impressed with Elisabet Ney, Colonel E. M. House,

## *History of Travis County*

and football was played for the first time at the University of Texas.

The town closed up for the regattas at the lake. The old-timers liked the new towers, and Austin boys were off to war again—the Spanish-American war.

And there is the story of that old, old Bible up at the capitol. Do you know it? The Texas State Historical Association started, and there was a new coach out at the University for football in 1898!

Hatzfeld's store was the talk of the town. And still they had smallpox epidemics. There was the old Driving Park, that you should drive down and locate. A children's home. And do you know about the University calendar?

Parks and pavement meant progress, and you will want to read about those rubber tires. Then the old capitol burned, and the old life was leaving the Austin area with the death of Big Foot Wallace, as was that 19th century, and it was time for Auld Lang Syne on the last Sunday of that century, for Austin and Travis County.

In 1870 city hall was built on the site of the first capital, the city officials were meeting at the markethouse just east of the present city hall, and the mayor had his office upstairs at the markethouse, which had been built by A. H. Cook and Loomis and Christian. Back of it was the Union House. The steep Eighth Street hill was being graded. The jail was over the markethouse, too, and there was a clock high on top of it.<sup>1</sup>

Repairs were being made at the capitol and the mansion, and in hope of inducing the military to remain in Austin, the Raymond house, which cost \$10,000, was built to house them. It was located at the northeast corner of Cedar and Congress. Many new houses were being built, and lots near the capitol which were offered for \$250 early in 1870 were bringing double that amount by May.<sup>2</sup>

In 1870, for the first time, Austin knew the Sunday law. The Texas Central Immigration Company was running a labor supply system by furnishing laborers, mechanics, servants, from Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, at their offices in the Dieterich Building, between Bremond's store on East Pecan and Sutor and Hirshfeld's store on the Avenue.<sup>3</sup> Swedish immigrants were arriving by the wagon loads.



## Development During the Years 1870-1899

A local dentist, Dr. R. Grant, was making plates "restoring the voice" and "plumpers" for those who have "thin and sunk-in jaws."<sup>4</sup>

There was activity in Austin; hotels were opening, and the Avenue Hotel, City Hotel and Capitol Hotel were crowded. When Austin was named as the permanent capitol in 1870, it had grown up to include 4,428 people. And Union labor groups were starting among the typographical workers. The *Daily Austin Republican* of November 29, 1870, listed Joe Petmecky as gunsmith, and compared Congress Avenue to Broadway.

The most momentous event of 1870 was that fall day when the old flagpole at Hancock's corner came down forever, to be replaced by a telegraph pole. The old flagpole had caused much contention since it was first put up by J. M. Blackwell, Frank Coupland, A. J. Hamilton, George Hancock, John Hancock, A. H. Longley, John T. McCrary, E. M. Pease, George W. Paschal, and E. B. Turner. During the war someone set it on fire, but another pole was put up in the same spot, and at the end of the war the same old flag, hidden during the war, was run up again.<sup>5</sup>

During this period Governor Davis' powers were prohibitive, and the state police which he started are a story all their own. Some in his group were responsible, many irresponsible, and killing and confiscation were attributed to them. Finally, when their leader, Adjutant General James Davidson, left, even the former Union sympathizers were disgusted. But all was not bad; the *Daily Austin Republican* had ads showing sirloin steaks selling at two-bits for two steaks, and round steak for a dime a pound. Butter was fifty cents; eggs, thirty-five cents; and turkeys could be bought for about a dollar.

Before the year ended, on December 5, David G. Burnet died, and General Harney closed his career and connection with Austin when he sold his place out near College Hill to Charles W. Whitis and James H. Raymond. Whitis soon owned the tract, and built a home about where the Scottish Rite Dormitory is located, subdivided his land, laid out streets, with Whitis Street being named Berlin Street then. Homes that we know in Austin today, were built on this land, as the Lem Scarbrough home at 2612 Whitis, the John W. Driskill home at 2607 Whitis, and Jesse L. Driskill at 2610 Whitis. It was the end of the old for many—it was the starting for much that was new.

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Austin was the scene of the Democratic convention in January, 1871, and again, in August, when the Democrats met and complained about taxes being too high.

On January 31 Governor Davis replaced Austin's mayor by naming John W. Glenn. Aldermen were Thomas Adams, John Bremond, J. L. Buaas, E. T. Eggleston, Henry Madison, J. H. Robinson, S. Sussins, and E. Wheelock, with two Negroes among them, and all served until November 28, 1873.

Business was booming; new people were coming to the city, much building was going on, and population and prices increased. The Raymond House at Congress and Cedar now housed the business offices of the army.

The Avenue and Capitol Hotels were full, and the Austin Hotel opened in 1871, at the site of the old Missouri House at Brazos and Pecan Streets.

At the foot of the Avenue, Millet, Criser and Millican were running a waterworks system, pumping water into their reservoir with an engine, and then selling it to carts for five cents a barrel, which was then peddled to the people. Later, this firm bought the cart business, and was sprinkling the streets, making mud out of the dust.<sup>6</sup>

There were nearly a hundred stone buildings underway in Austin.<sup>7</sup> No houses or stores were available for lease. Sidewalks were being constructed in front of stores; and there were complaints about dates having to pay six dollars for a buggy ride of only about five miles. Lumber was selling for about \$33 per thousand board feet, nearly a third of the price of a few months past.<sup>8</sup> And one could buy a lot to put that lumber on for \$250 to \$1200.<sup>9</sup> Joseph Nalle had his lumber company in Austin in 1871.

The *Daily State Journal* of December 21, 1871, comments that big buildings being constructed up in the section known as "back of the capitol" soon will make that area the "Brooklyn of Austin."

This was the time when the city hall was used for concerts and such, until about 1906.

The legislature was in session for about 321 days during 1871, and issued a charter for the Star State Savings Association to Joe A. Bowers, Joseph Harrell, Thos. F. Mitchell, E. T. Moore, J. E. Rector, William O. Thomas,—and Ben Thompson.

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Sixty shares of stock were to be sold at \$500, for their capital stock of \$30,000. A. M. Jackson was elected President, Fred W. Moore, Vice President, T. R. Mitchell, Secretary, and Joseph Harrell, Treasurer, with directors being Leander Brown, Dennis Corwin, R. S. Rust, C. Spalding, and O. Worthington.<sup>10</sup>

One of Austin's earliest banks was started by General Benjamin Ludlow, who came here during reconstruction days and started a bank with Forster and others. C. R. Johns and Company had their bank in a building across from the Avenue Hotel.<sup>11</sup> Jas. H. Raymond and C. W. Whitis were also associated in a bank.

The City Council, in its February meeting, decided that sidewalks on the Avenue should be 12 feet wide, with curb five feet thick, and thirty inches wide, paved with stone.<sup>12</sup>

Street signs were showing up on corners. And the *Statesman* had suggestions about another problem, the cab fares which were 50 cents. "Street cars would knock all this little arrangement of the hackmen in the head. Let us have street cars."<sup>13</sup>

One of the progressive pioneers of this period was Paggi, the city's ice man. He had his factory out at Barton's, and a stand near the post office, where he sold ice. Of him, the *Statesman* said on December 10, 1871: "Our enterprising friend Paggi is now in Europe and has purchased an ice machine which will make some 5000 pounds per day. . . . He also intends bringing with him a small iron steamer, to ply between this city and Barton's. . . . It is such men that make cities." He also built a bath house out at Barton's, where he had swimming suits, even then, for rent, and bought a merry-go-round to install there, too.<sup>14</sup>

The *State Journal* of August 5, 1871, said, "Who of our ancestors would have dreamed of a man in his shirt sleeves, puffing and sweating like a good fellow, running a steam engine in a room, the temperature of which is 100° above 0, grinding out solid bars of cold and crystal ice every ten or fifteen minutes? Yet this can be seen by anyone who will take the trouble to walk down to the foot of Congress Avenue any time. . . . What will we do next?"

Also, out at Barton's, G. T. Rabb manufactured ice at the mill he had built, part of which still stands. The equipment for his ice factory was shipped from France. During this time an



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arch bridge was built near the Rabb home, to cross Barton's, and it lasted until washed away by the 1900 flood.

Governor Davis, too, was busy. He had a note in the *Tri-Weekly State Gazette* of May 17, 1871, advising people to buy the pies of Mrs. Brown, a Negro, with her stand near the capitol gate, and not to buy from Mrs. Warren, who had lost two sons in the Rebel Army. Ed Tillman, too, was enterprising. He was selling cut glass with the state capitol, mansion, and such, on his decanters and tumblers.<sup>15</sup>

Not too many in Travis County were interested in John W. Gates, who was in San Antonio, showing cattlemen how barbed wire fences would hold their cattle. Nor were they impressed by the General Sherman who was inspecting Army posts in Texas that year. And in passing they read of the Chicago fire in October, which Mrs. O'Leary's cow started.

The Board of Trade organized on October 27, with Walter Tips as President and Henry Hirshfeld as Vice President.

Austinites enjoyed the drive around the capitol, past the Treasurer's and Comptroller's building on the right, and the Supreme Court building on the left, in a setting of flowering jasmine, magnolia, and oleander trees, with lakes on the south-east and southwest sides.

And, as was pointed out, you could "tell the citizen from the denizen by the sleek stove pipe, the jaunty silk, the dime boot heel, the gold headed canes," and all of the men were looking at the "bewitching corps of blonde counter-hoppers."<sup>16</sup>

Then it was 1872, and Austin's city directory came out with a story on Austin by Judge G. H. Gray, in which he named Lot 1, Block 42, and Lot 6, Block 55, as the most valuable real estate.

At this time an acre of land in the area on Shoal Creek and West Pecan Street would sell for about \$1,000, and four to six-room houses were renting from \$30 to \$35 a month.<sup>17</sup>

When the freight depot was built on Fifth Street, it was the beginning of building in the east end of Austin, an area which had been fields for corn and cattle. Out of eight lots that sold in 1865 for \$1,200, two of them netted \$4,500 in 1872. These were located between 2nd and 3rd Streets on the Avenue.<sup>18</sup> It is easy to see how carpetbaggers coming to this area after the Civil War could buy up locations such as these and amass estates which are known today. Others were built on fore-

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closures as evidenced by records in the Travis County Court-house.

During June a caravan of camels and their caretakers camped across the river while on their way to the land of Bethel Coopwood.<sup>19</sup>

And still the new people came. Many contributed to civic advancement, as did A. P. Wooldridge. William Henry Tobin came in 1872 to practice medicine, and later to own the street railway system. With his brother, Dr. John J. Tobin, he also ran a drug store at that old red brick building of Lamar Moore's, and over that drug store the Austin Benedict Club met.

Travis County had snow on January 28, 1873, and a new charter for Austin in April, when an act to incorporate the city was amended on April 7, 1873. Ten wards were established, with elections to be held on the first Monday in November. One per cent was the maximum tax set on property, and the debt of Austin in bonds was not to exceed \$100,000, except by vote.

Nationally, in 1873, a panic was prevailing and banks were closing, but Austin was progressing.

In the old courthouse for Travis County, where the American-Statesman building is located, James V. Bergen and George B. Zimpelman opened an abstract office in 1873 to take care of titles to all the property around Austin. Later, they handled real estate too, moving to the location of the present Driskill Hotel, and by 1895, their company, with additions, had grown into the Gracy Abstract Company.

There was new patent cement being tried out on the Avenue and on Pecan Street, and samples of the asphaltum pavement were being shown at the mayor's office. Butler Brick Company began, and Austin had its sidewalks on the Avenue now, and someone set up a portable grocery near the markethouse, where one could buy coffee and sugar, a dozen fryers for \$3, and a dozen turkeys for that many dollars. Home-made candy was being sold near Sampson and Henricks store, under the sign of the big popcorn ball.<sup>20</sup> Hood's Brigade met in a reunion at Barton Springs in 1873.

The Democrats had another convention, and that dam across the Colorado was still an idea, with John Hancock and George Zimpelman trying to work it out. Hazzard and Raymond were starting the Commercial Restaurant, and another

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man was busy out at Bee Cave, in western Travis County about this time. When Carl Beck started his store there in 1873, he not only had one of the oldest stores in the county, but he had other enterprises, a grist mill, cotton gin, and a cigar factory. The store remained in his family, and descendants, the Lalliers, are there today. Beck came to Travis County from Germany as an immigrant at sixteen, and settled at Bee Cave, where there was plenty of water and wood. Beside farming and raising cattle, he was postmaster for 45 years, with the post office in his store, built at the crossroads to Hamilton Pool and Marble falls.

It was cotton country then, and settlers came to gin cotton, and grind corn at his gin, which was propelled by steam from an engine fired with wood. One season he ginned four hundred bales. Water was hauled from there by the other settlers, as he had that engine rigged up to pump water too.

Mail came to his post office from Austin by buggy or horseback, with folks coming for their mail and stocking up with supplies, dry goods, hardware, harness, kegs of nails, kerosene for lamps, chimneys, bringing in their produce to trade.

But the cigar factory was the big business. Beck had a building for it, three rooms and a porch for his factory; five men were employed as cigar makers; the tobacco came from New Orleans, and the most popular make was Beck's "Cornerstone Cigar." At Christmas time, he made up small cigars, tied red ribbons around them, and gave them to customers. He furnished Austin stores with cigars, when it was an all-day trip from Bee Cave to Austin. He died in 1929, and his wife soon after, but his daughters, Mrs. Carl Lallier and Mrs. N. R. Stromberg remember the days when ice and ice cream were a treat, and the red soda water was good even when hot, after the all-day trip from Austin, with french harps and chewing gum in their hands.

The highlight of 1873 was in May, when Jeff Davis, ex-President of the Confederacy, visited in Austin, and with ex-Governor Lubbock and Judge Terrell, stopped by the State Cemetery and stood in silence at the grave of Albert Sidney Johnston, of whom Jeff Davis said, "He grew up in the blue, but he loved the grey."<sup>21</sup>

Everyone knows the story of the controversy between



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Governors Coke and Davis, in January, 1874, when Coke assumed office upstairs with the 14th legislature, while Davis tried to keep control downstairs, with the 13th legislature; Davis tried to enlist the Travis Rifles in his cause, and closed the saloons before taking the group to the arsenal to arrest Mayor Wheeler, who was endeavoring to keep control of the cannon and the arsenal. This arsenal was in an old building on West Avenue, between 8th and 9th Streets.<sup>22</sup> According to Frank Brown, in his *Annals of Travis County*, there was another arsenal at Congress Avenue and 19th Street, in an old building belonging to George Robinson, son-in-law of Louis Horst. The cadets from the Military Institute came down the hill to help guard the arsenal on West Avenue. Finally, after being refused aid by President Grant, Davis, under escort of Sheriff Zimpelman, retired, and Coke became Governor until December, 1876. Under Coke the constitution convention met and wrote the constitution approved in 1876.

Horace Greeley summed up the situation in the South as it was then, in a speech in New York on January 20, 1874, at Union Station, after his trip to Texas: "I did say that I regarded the policy of excluding the leading men of the South from office as a very great mistake, and a very great injury to the National cause and to the republican party. Well, Gentlemen, the thieving carpetbaggers are a mournful fact; they do exist in the South and I have seen them. They are the greatest obstacle to the triumph and permanent ascendancy of Republican principles in the South, and as such, I denounce them."<sup>23</sup>

Houses were being numbered, and there were new street names in 1874. The names of the streets in the original plan of Austin, were not changed; added to these were:

Cherry Street, now known as 16th;  
Linden Street, now known as 17th;  
Chestnut Street, now 18th,  
Magnolia Street, now 19th,  
Elm Street, now 20th,  
Palmetto Street, now 21st,  
Orange Street, now 22nd,  
Maple Street, now 23rd,  
Willow Street, now 24th,  
Sycamore Street, now 25th,  
Laurel, now 26th,  
Locust, now 27th,  
Plum, now 28th,

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and as the boundaries of Austin were extended, new names were added such as Medina, San Saba, Comal, Navidad, Lampasas, University, San Marcos, San Bernard.

There were more new businesses: one that started then was the von Boeckmann-Jones Company, and the Singer Sewing Machine Company had machines stitching away in the Glasscock Building. Jeremiah Sheehan was contracting for construction of rock homes, supplying material from his quarry, which dated back to 1858, and was located back of the Austin Woman's Club, of 1962. S. B. Hill had his photographic studio at 818 Congress.

1875 marked the end of an era for the old Bullock corner at Congress and Pecan—and a new building was started that caused the corner to be called Cook's corner. For thirty-six years, the buildings had been a landmark there, with improvements on those first built by Bullock on the alley at Pecan, east and up the alley north; a cluster of cabins then with patio centering them. Several people followed Bullock at this corner, Thomas William Ward running the hotel, then a Mr. Lane, and Henry McCullough, and then James G. Swisher. Cook's building, as it came to be called, was to have a "bank apartment."<sup>24</sup> This new building, three stories high, was built on a 46 x 160-foot lot, cost Cook about \$30,000, and the first floor was to be the home of the First National Bank, started in 1873 by the Brackenridges. Back of the bank, there was space for five stores, and office space upstairs, with the old Southern style galleries on the south side. Many living in Austin today have watched parades as they passed, from these porches. Stone used in this building came from Walsh's quarry at Barton's, which at the time was leased by Stewart and Morgan for ten years.<sup>25</sup>

An interesting comment of the paper then about Austin is much the same as today. The *Daily Democratic Statesman* of October 24, 1875, comments on the city: "The present need of Austin is manufactories . . . Another secret of the growth of Austin is the hearty welcome that it gives to those who make it their home."<sup>26</sup>

But progress was apparent in the opening of the St. Charles' Hotel and the Sutor Hotel; in the opening of bids for lighting the capitol and mansion with gas, with Brush and White bidding

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\$2,600 for low on the job, against Selby and Calder's bid of \$2,930, and Whiting's of \$3,330, according to the *Daily Democratic Statesman*.

There were new sidewalks at the Hancock store, and at the Hirshfeld store, across the street on the east side of the Avenue.

New features were showing up in building, with hollow wall construction being used, and there was comment about the new slate roofs on the land office building, costing about \$2,000, and with the addition of iron doors and shutters costing about \$500, this building of Austin stone was made fireproof.<sup>27</sup>

Captain Walsh, who had leased out his quarry at Barton's Spring, was joining with a citizen named Johns to start a lime manufactory. And progress was plain when the new typewriter was demonstrated in Austin by S. G. Sneed, with writing by "touching keys."<sup>28</sup>

L. T. Botta was making candy for his store near Paggi's, below the Avenue Hotel. John H. Robinson was building his new home on the Raymond Plateau, paying \$7,000 for a two-story house with ten rooms and water and gas. Out at Barton's, offers for land at \$350 per acre were being turned down.<sup>29</sup>

There was activity in real estate near the site of the proposed new courthouse, at Congress and 11th, where seven stores, 23 feet x 80 feet, were being built by the following men: Cook and Son, Loomis and Christian, Radkey and Cavett, Sampson and Hendricks, Judge Terrell, Hillyer, M. C. Gurney, and Hunter.<sup>30</sup> In this courthouse block later were the Alhambra Hotel on the corner south of the courthouse, and the Court Exchange Saloon and the Woodward Brothers Saloon of Clarence Woodward.

And everyone was wondering what to do when Major Minter, surveying for the city, found many had built their homes in Austin over the line, on a neighbor's land. What to do, if the owner, let us say, of Lot 7, Block 170, found this was the case, and yet had a certificate of survey from the man who sold it, signed also by the then mayor of Austin?

There was criticism of the city for the sale, during past times, of land set aside for West Avenue to be 160 feet wide, and the sale had covered one-half of that street from Pecan south to the river.<sup>31</sup>

The *Daily Democratic Statesman* criticized the report of the



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city for Mayor Wheeler's term, listing fines collected as \$2,661.95, and police expenditures as \$30,528.91, while figures of Mayor Brown's last year in office showed fines brought in were \$1,200, and expenditures only \$1,700.<sup>32</sup>

The same paper commented on April 4, 1875, "The city government is rapidly leading us down to ruin and bankruptcy. The city's bonded debt has been increased \$40,000 in the past six months. The extent of the floating debt is unknown."

The State Cemetery, east of town, covered about 20 acres from Bois d' Arc Street to College Avenue, with a 30-foot avenue running from north to south, and crossing at the center another avenue of the same size, running from east to west.

In 1875, the assessors and collectors of taxes resumed their old duties, which had been taken over by the justices of the peace for about five or six years. Back in the days of the Republic, the sheriffs handled this work until about 1846, when Texas became a state, and assessors and collectors were empowered.

The *Statesman* of December 16, 1875, commented on the meeting at the capitol to ratify the constitution slated for a vote on December 15. Speakers were scheduled, but not a dozen folks showed up, and so the bands played to fill the interim. Finally, they adjourned to meet in front of the Avenue Hotel, about 6 o'clock that evening. Again the band played; there was a vote, and although about forty voted against the resolutions, and about three for it, it ended with "the ayes have it."<sup>33</sup>

In 1876, Governor Richard Hubbard spoke to the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia of the great growth in Texas' population and prosperity. On June 25, 1876, General Custer and his soldiers were killed at Little Big Horn, and on August 2, Wild Bill Hickok also was killed.

Austin had a fair in 1875, and it seemed successful, so the Capital State Fair Association planned a better one for 1876. Officials on the fair committee in 1876 were: C. S. West, president; T. B. Wheeler and J. D. Sayers, vice president; E. C. Bartholomew, secretary; James R. Johnson, treasurer; J. D. Sayers, general superintendent; George Zimpelman, marshal; A. S. Roberts, in charge of speed ring; and James H. Raymond, in charge of gate.<sup>34</sup>

In this period of the 1870's, stone was being quarried from Mount Bonnell where the Mormons had their grist mill nearby,

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and fashioned their millstones from that hill.<sup>35</sup>

In October, 1876, an archaeological group was organized in Austin, and a new furniture manufacturing business was going down on Congress Avenue, near the river. Also another industry started near the river, when a Dallas cement company representative leased the old Glasscock mill for 20 years at \$100 annually, to make cement. Out at Barton's, Paggi's mill was not running because of low water. And John Hancock and Alfred Smith were starting a tannery, to make ladies' boots and shoes.

Bankers in Austin in 1876 were E. Bremond, J. T. Brackenridge, Forster and Ludlow and Company, Raymond and Whitis. Land agents were John W. Maddox and Joseph Spence. Brackenridge valued lots then on Congress Avenue or on Pecan Street, from \$208 to \$250 a front foot, with a depth of 125 feet. According to this source, Austin's bonded debt was \$77,000; floating debt, \$23,000; city bonds were listed in Wall Street at 95c and \$1; the county bonded debt was \$125,000, occasioned by the building of the courthouse; and the assessed property of the city and county was listed as ten million dollars.<sup>36</sup>

Then it was 1877, and William Huddle was in Austin exhibiting a portrait of Governor Hubbard.<sup>37</sup>

The City Directory of 1877 listed 13 churches in Austin, 10 educational establishments, 11 private schools, Masonic lodges, Odd Fellows lodges, Hebrew associations, water works, gas works, a city railway, two ice companies, shooting clubs, theaters, halls, and four newspapers.

In 1877, Austin's mayor was Jacob C. De Gress, a former Prussian army officer. Butter was selling for 15c a pound, and eggs were 11c a dozen.<sup>38</sup> Of Austin's capitol, it was said, "But the capitol, or state house, is unworthy of its beauty. It looks like an old stone box, and the noble hill on which it stands renders its ugliness more conspicuous and deformed. The grand state of Texas should have a better thing than that."<sup>39</sup>

The late 1870's saw complaints about supposedly secret sessions of Austin's city council to ban street car and utility companies, and it was suggested that more street lighting and sewers and a passenger depot, which were needed, be provided. Complaints came in, too, about usury; that money lending at 10% was not only breaking the citizens, but was preventing

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their investing it in Austin.

1878 was the time of growth for South Austin, and it was being referred to as Brooklyn.<sup>40</sup> The Brueggerhoff Building at the southeast corner of Congress and Tenth Street was booming, with a barroom in the basement, and offices rented on all floors. H. P. N. Gammel had a dime book store after he came here in about 1878, later possessing a much bigger place.

In 1879, Oran M. Roberts, "the Old Alcalde," became Governor. It was he who was instrumental in Elisabet Ney coming to Austin. He had planned to construct a capitol of white limestone, atop of which would be figures of men like Lamar and Houston, to be created by Miss Ney. But when plans were provided to build the capitol of red Texas grandite, her statues of these men went inside the capitol building.

For Austin, the mayor's annual report for 1879 was interesting:

Warrants outstanding on October 20, 1879 .....	\$14,805.76
Cash in city treasury .....	5,881.61
Bonded indebtedness of Austin .....	91,900.00
Ad Valorem taxes collected 1876 .....	231.25
1877, to October 20, 1879 .....	752.28
Back taxes collected .....	698.38
Ad Valorem taxes for the year 1878 to Oct. 20, '79 ....	47,689.48
" " " for the year 1879 to October 20 ....	752.17
" " " uncollected for 1879, due .....	43,793.63

By 1878 the mayor's salary had been raised to \$2,000 yearly; the city attorney, \$600 and fees; and the marshal, \$1,800. The assessors and collectors received 2% on all assessments and collections. And the city physician was paid \$690 yearly.<sup>41</sup>

Report of city expenditures for the year that ended October 20, 1879,<sup>42</sup> showed:

Fire department .....	\$ 7,504.39
Streets and bridge .....	12,505.59
Miscellaneous .....	1,127.42
Markethouse .....	941.55
Printing, postage and stationery ....	1,025.63
Charity .....	2,132.73
Police .....	8,814.17
Sanitary .....	1,465.10
Salaries of city officers .....	6,493.31
Commissions of tax assessor and	



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collector and city attorney .....	1,384.98
City cemetery .....	563.57
Street lamps .....	6,415.20
Water rents .....	5,647.94
Interest .....	10,429.85

The mayor's statement for 1879, from the annual report, showed:

Warrants outstanding Oct. 20, 1879	\$14,805.76
Cash in city treasury .....	5,881.61
Bonded indebtedness of city .....	91,900.00
Advalorem taxes collected	
1877 to Oct. 20, 1879 .....	752.28
1876 .....	231.25
Back taxes collected .....	698.38
Advalorem taxes uncollected for	
1879, now due .....	43,793.63
Liicenses collected to Oct. 20, 1879	10,217.00
Income from markethouse to	
Oct. 20, 1879 .....	1,417.05
Income from cemetery .....	882.50
Fines from mayor's court to	
Oct. 20, 1879 .....	2,595.80
Cash on hand October 20, 1878 .....	7,500.15

The Tenth Census gives a picture of the progress Austin had made. Congress Avenue and Pecan Street had been provided with paving of "limestone slabs"<sup>43</sup> and cobblestone gutters and sidewalks. The street lamps, a hundred of them, realized a revenue of \$18,000 yearly, including meters.

There was progress in Austin in the eighties, and in 1880, the gravel streets were being graded, and more bridges were being built. In fact, during 1879, the city spent \$12,505.59 on all this work.<sup>44</sup> And about fifty convicts were working on the approach to the I & G N bridge on the town side of the river, for the new bridge. City property included 4 parks, of 1.7 acres each, Pease Park, city hall, markethouse, 2 fire engine houses and a hook and ladder house.

In 1879, Ash Street was called the "high-toned side street" of Austin. It was on the east side of the Avenue, where the *Statesman* had its office, as were the Millet Opera House, Alexander's Drug Store, the Pectoral Syrup Manufactory, Raatz Safe and Lock Factory, and a beer garden.<sup>45</sup>

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McKean-Eilers started their store about 1879, and on December 21, George S. Dowell was born in Austin, where he was to spend 77 years as a resident and lawyer.

The average temperature was listed at 88° with the highest recorded hot weather as 106°, and an average low of about 46°, with an unusual 6° for an all-time low.<sup>46</sup>

Bacon was selling for a dime a pound; butter was twenty cents; eggs, fifteen cents a dozen.

Horses pulled the street cars for one and one-half miles, and the six cars had sixteen horses. Nineteen employees served the 20,000 passengers in 1879, at a fare of five cents per ride.

There were thirteen blacksmiths in 1880, to take care of transportation problems of the mules and horses, and there were many manufacturing industries listed: Candles, carriages, cigars, ice, kindling wood, leather, lime, locks, lumber, marble and stone, patent medicines, and soap.

In 1881, when the news of President Garfield's death reached Austin, the bells at the city hall were rung at midnight when the news arrived, and on September 26 memorial services were held.

There were two exciting episodes in Austin in November. One was the beginning of the University of Texas, which is told in another chapter, and the other was the burning of the capitol.

The fire that burned the capitol was on November 9, when a janitor started the fire to burn trash, and sparks started the fire in the building. A loss that coincided with that of the capitol, was the ten-foot statue at the entrance, to the heroes of the Alamo, built from material out of the Alamo by William Nangle in 1841, with the names of Bonham, Bowie, Crockett, and Travis, and the inscription, "To the God of the fearless and free is dedicated this altar, made from the ruins of the Alamo." This was replaced later by a 35-foot monument to these men, which is in the grounds in 1962.

Temporary quarters were set up here and there for the executives; the governor moved over to the Travis County courthouse in the offices of County Judge Fuller and Sheriff Creary, and the secretary of state must have been a little self-conscious doing business at the jail. Houses were rented for other offices.

The *Texas Siftings*, with its usual humor, commented: "The architecturcal monstrosity that has so long disfigured the heaven-

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kissing hill at the head of Congress Avenue, in Austin, is no more. The venerable edifice that bore such a striking resemblance to a large sized corn crib, with a pumpkin for a dome, and whose walls have so often resounded with legislative eloquence, reminding the distant hearer of a dog barking up a hollow log . . .”<sup>47</sup>

The annual fairs are discussed in another chapter; but the fair program for 1881, showed advertisements for Simone Restaurant at 610 Congress; William Radam at his Pleasant Valley Nursery, at Montopolis; and the Star House advertised meals at 817 Congress.

In 1882, the State National Bank was organizing, with Eugene Bremond as president, and for nearly a century the Bremonds have been bank officers, down to Walter Bremond, III, at the Capital National Bank.

Close to the State National Bank, located on the south side of East Pecan Street, on the alley in the 100 block, Henry Hirshfeld had a dry goods store at Pecan and Congress, at the southeast corner; at 124 West Pecan, there was the Bank Saloon; farther out on West Pecan, M. Paggi had buggies, carriages, phaetons; the St. Charles Hotel was also on Pecan Street, near the Central Depot, and this hotel charged 25 cents for meals, and the same price for lodging.<sup>48</sup> D. W. Jones and Company had furniture at 306 Congress; J. C. Petmecky had his gun shop at 508 Congress; R. M. Castleman had dry goods at 605 Congress; Melasky and Sons had clothes at 618 Congress, close to Carl Mayer, jeweler even then. S. B. Hill had his photographic shop at 817 Congress, and J. W. Graham had his drug store at 918 Congress. The Eclipse Stables ran from Bois d’ Arc Street to Hickory Street, just off Congress Avenue.<sup>49</sup>

When General Sherman passed through Austin in 1882, it was written up in the paper under “Sherman’s March.”<sup>50</sup> General Ludlow, of the bank, was one who welcomed him, with Colonel John W. Glenn, who had been mayor in Austin in 1872, when Sherman visited Austin.

O. M. Roberts was in Galveston, helping to form the State Bar Association, and by August 23, 1882, the Republicans were meeting in Austin, and prices were commented on in the papers, “Meat has become so dear in Austin that a hotel-keeper uses



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a market basket to carry the money to market, and he brings back the meat in his pocket book."<sup>51</sup>

There was an extra session of the legislature in April, and while the capitol was being built, the members of the House met in Millet's Opera House, and the Senate at the Manning Rifle Armory. The plans for the temporary capitol were approved in May, and \$50,000 was appropriated, with stone from the old capitol to be used. A committee was appointed to build this temporary capitol, at the southwest corner of Congress and Mesquite (11th). The building was ready for the legislature on January 1, 1883.

Ironically, plans had been made for a new capitol building, even before the old one burned in November, 1881. The story of the permanent capitol that is in the capitol grounds, is in another chapter. And the project of that artesian well at the capitol, which had been dug, was abandoned, when the capitol was placed over that spot.<sup>52</sup>

In 1883, Austin had new businesses in the Calcasieu Lumber Company and C. J. Martin, seed and grain company.

Two of Texas' ex-governors died in Austin in 1883. E. J. Davis died on February 7, followed by E. M. Pease on August 26. And in that year, Austin became the home of George W. Littlefield, who was to contribute so much to Austin. He came to Texas when he was about nine, from the plantation where he was born in Como, Mississippi; he was in his teens when he joined the Civil War company he served as second sergeant, and was with Terry's Texas Rangers. He came back on crutches, as a major, and lived through reconstruction in Texas, and the ruined cotton crops of 1868-69-70, and then took up trail driving, where he was associated with Bud Driskill, Seth Mabry, and Ike Pryor. His ranches were among some of the biggest holdings, in New Mexico and in Texas, and he had the dinner bell ranch on Plum Creek near Kyle in 1882. In Austin, he was associated with Pierre Bremond in the State National Bank until about 1890, when more is written of him.<sup>53</sup>

This was the time when the prediction was made that Austin would be the great health resort of the Southwest.<sup>54</sup> Austin had progressive people then. Such inventions as air conditioning were underway even then, and J. Prade was running a steam engine which made ice cream, and which also air cooled his

parlor.<sup>55</sup>

There was a new Masonic Building in Austin in the spring of 1883, with a woman's exchange and a reading room in it. The Hancock Building (where the Capitol Theater is in 1962) belonged to John Hancock, and his nephew, Lewis Hancock, and A. P. Wooldridge had offices in this building. There were about 50 new houses being built, and in May, the Austin Compress Company started. The foundation was being laid for the new Driskill Hotel.<sup>56</sup> And the Austin Athletic Association had its building at the foot of Colorado Street.

The city directory, the fourth one, published that year, listed 17,000 people, and under city property for 1883, real estate was listed as \$4,073,490.

The mayor's race that year really saw some politicking; horses were seen on the Avenue with banners thrown on them for de Cordova and for Saylor.

The Calcasieu Lumber Company, which had begun business in Austin, was chartered with a capitol of \$20,000.<sup>57</sup>

The construction going on in Austin, at the University and at the capitol, contributed to the advancement of Austin's economy, because by that time, 1884, there were about 80 men working at the capitol and about 150 at the Oatmanville quarry.<sup>58</sup> In this year, the new city hospital was underway.

O. M. Roberts served as Commissioner of the Fish Department during the 1880's, and was securing salmon and shad for streams.

J. O. Buaas started his sheet metal works in 1884, and his firm roofed the land office with slate. Frank Heierman started his machine shop the same year, and a new post office was built at Sixth and Colorado Streets.

It was time, too, to think of a home for those Confederate veterans, and a charter was granted to the John B. Hood camp to establish such a home in Austin.

There were complaints often for city departments in those times, too, but none quite like the man who found a small cat-fish in his bath water, and complained to the water company, who replied, "Contract does not specify that we shall furnish trout."<sup>59</sup>

The two outstanding events in Travis County in 1884 were the coming and leaving of two men whom Austin knew well:

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William Sidney Porter came to Austin that spring of 1884, and Ben Thompson died.

Out on Guadalupe Street, on the drag, in 1885, two years after the University opened, the University Drug Store started, and P. W. McFadden and Claude B. Hill could claim the first business place on the drag, which started on a 20 x 50-foot location; and they could claim the location where Ben Thompson once lived in a small cottage.

Downtown, on the Avenue in 1885 the Union Depot House was run by Mrs. Eliza Knight, at the site of the Katy Railroad Station. The Millet Mansion at the corner of East Ash and Brazos Streets, was managed by S. J. Orr, W. H. Salge had his Chop House at 308 Congress, and below the Avenue Hotel, at 715 Congress there were about 10,000 books at the store that became H. P. N. Gammel's.

There were saloons like the Iron Front, the Crystal, and the Gold Room. These were the dry years in the Austin area, from 1885 to 1888, but only so far as the weather was concerned.

Fairview Park, in South Austin, was started by Charles A. Newning, William H. Stacy, and George Warner. The City National Bank started, and on July 10, 1885, the "Red Front Candy Shop" opened on the Avenue by the Lamme family, who still sell their candies, gum, etc.

In 1886, there were more developments in the suburbs, and the Horst property near the University, north of Nineteenth Street, and west of Waller Creek, was being subdivided by Christian and Fellman, and street cars were soon going out there to Magnolia and Red River Streets. Also, the Whitis addition was being promoted at this time, and both grew after the University opened. The street cars were also running out to Fairview Park, on the south side. And Austin in 1886, had five banks, 2 gas companies, 3 ice factories, a cotton compress, and water works.<sup>60</sup>

City assessments during the 1880's were:<sup>61</sup>

1882	-----	\$5,252,837.00
1883	-----	\$5,887,748.00
1884	-----	\$6,844,560.00
1885	-----	\$7,206,442.00
1886	-----	\$7,518,211.00

Many new businesses started in 1886; it was during this



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year that Joe Koen came to Austin, from New York, and opened his first jewelry store in the old Avenue Hotel. Two years later, he moved his store to 105 East Sixth, where it has operated continuously, and today is run by William Koen, who joined his father in the business in 1916.

The McDonald Building was being built at the corner of Bois d' Arc and Colorado Streets, southeast.<sup>62</sup> Eugene Bremond was building a storehouse on the northeast corner of Congress and Hickory, evidently for a warehouse.<sup>63</sup> The Hix Cigar Factory was planning an expansion requiring about 40 employees.<sup>64</sup> And Michael Butler employed about 100 men to operate his new brick machinery, which cost about \$10,000.<sup>65</sup> Joe Griffith still had that bath house going down at the river, and the Phoenix Cigar Company was incorporated by J. H. Brackenridge, Charles Hicks, and Will Stacy, for \$100,000.<sup>66</sup> There was the new Nalle Building on West Bois d' Arc, to be operated as the Orr Hotel by Mrs. S. J. Orr, with its verandahs and dining room, and located next to the Masonic Temple.<sup>67</sup>

The Confederate Home was begun in 1886, as the project of the John B. Hood group of veterans, who maintained it until 1892-93, when the State assumed it; serving as superintendents were General Wm. P. Hardeman, 1894-98, and Colonel H. E. Shelby, 1898-99. See picture, and then drive out West Sixth and see it as it is today.

Sidewalks of local stone were being laid, and business lots on Congress Avenue were valued at from \$4,000 to \$20,000.<sup>68</sup>

1886 was the year of the building of the Driskill Hotel, by Jesse L. Driskill, who came here in the early 1870's. At the same time John Blocker and Bud Driskill were starting 4,000 head of cattle up the trail, and planning to drive about 50,000 up to Colorado later.<sup>69</sup> There was a ceremony for the cornerstone at the Driskill; furniture was being brought in by J. L. Driskill, and that fall, the paper was suggesting that this hotel be exempt from taxes for about ten to fifteen years, because of what Driskill has done for Austin.<sup>70</sup>

And I wonder how many people in Austin today have ever really looked at the old hotel? How many know that there are still today, atop the building, busts of Driskill on the south side, and of his sons on the east and west sides, over the entrances, just as they were placed there over seventy years ago. Look

for them as you drive by. See picture taken a little later.

This hotel was opened by Christmas, 1886, and the cost, complete with furniture, etc., was \$400,000. The south, east and west entrances had triumphal arches; there was an electric bell system; a billiard and barroom, with a made-to-order sideboard; a Texas steer head was on the wall of the bar; there were marble bureaus and washstands, carved walnut furniture, and cherry, too, and balconies. J. N. Preston and Sons were the architects. Soon, the building was leased to S. E. McIlheny, and then J. M. Day, brother-in-law of Driskill, bought it, and about 1895 George W. Littlefield took it over, until after the turn of the century, and for many years W. L. Stark was manager, and well-known to Austin people. Governor Ross' inaugural ball was held there, as were later ones.

1886 was really a progressive year for Austin; new ordinances were being drafted, and street improvements made to the tune of ten thousand dollars, lighted lamps were to be affixed to moving vehicles, like the old buggy or surrey, and gambling was to be stopepd. There was a revision of the charter and civil and criminal ordinances of Austin, adopted May 17, 1886.

East and West Avenue were to remain 200 feet wide (West Avenue did not), College and Congress Avenues 120 feet, and North Avenue 100 feet; other streets 80 feet, except River Walk, Water Avenue west of Congress, and West Avenue south of Pecan. All alleys were to be twenty feet wide.

Probably no one living in Austin today remembers the night of July 5, 1887 as being significant, except Lawrence K. Smoot, at his home at 1316 West Sixth Street, where his father, Rev. R. K. Smoot, married O. Henry and Athol Estes that night.

And there was still discussion of articles in papers during 1886, commenting "There is a German settlement in this city, wherein the settlers refuse to enroll their children or return their names to the census taker, for the reason that they do not want them to learn the English language. Queer American citizens, these."<sup>71</sup>

And the same paper saying, "Every county must be cleansed of the last lingering slime of radicalism . . . dry rot republicans must be laid on the shelf reserved for political memories."<sup>72</sup>

In 1887, there was comment by the paper on taking "any

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part of Travis County to form the new county of Willis."<sup>73</sup>

And Morrison-Fourney working on their city directory here, estimated the population of Austin as 27,093, with eight million dollars of taxable property.<sup>74</sup>

The Confederate Home was dedicated on Sunday, March 13, 1887, and Samuel Huston College was in the planning, with a donation of \$10,000.<sup>75</sup>

In July, 1887, the Board of Trade was begun with the following men: Eugene Bremond, A. P. Wooldridge, W. H. Tobin, R. M. Castleman, W. B. Smith, J. W. Phillips, R. C. Walker, P. C. Roach, Frank Hamilton, W. P. Gaines, John Orr, and A. F. McKean. In 1889, they had more than 200 members and a \$35,000 building.<sup>76</sup>

Five thousand dollars was spent to enlarge the Travis County poor farm, with 180 acres of land bought from Governor Roberts. 1888 started off with a letter from A. P. Wooldridge to the editor of the paper, on January 1, for a dam for Austin.

The railroads, discussed in another chapter, were encouraging immigrants, and a State Immigration Bureau opened in the Driskill Hotel. Then, the *Statesman* put out an immigration edition, advertising Austin, in March.<sup>77</sup>

Wool and sand were being shipped out of Austin, and it was nearing the nineties, in 1889, when the issue was whether Austin wanted a mayor who urged a bond issue for a new city hall and for parks and street improvement, or a mayor who advocated the new dam.

Fairview Park, which had started in South Austin in 1885, by Charles G. Newning, who built an \$18,000 home there, became Austin's 11th ward. After the new bridge over the river was opened, there were barbecues and socials out there.

And it was 1888, when the Interstate Drill was held at Galveston, Texas, from August 5-11, that souvenir pictures of General John Magruder were issued, since it was he who built the fort in Austin during the Civil War.

By October, 1888, the White Rose Baking Powder Company was scheduled to locate in Austin at the old Austin Ice Company site.<sup>78</sup>

The street cars were running their open summer cars this year, built at the stables here by J. W. Greene.<sup>79</sup> There were 30 street cars now, with ten miles of track, and 130 mules, and



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about this time the drivers were wearing uniforms. See picture of open cars.

Not only in Austin was there progress; it was everywhere. The first automobile was shown at the World Fair, and political parties came and went, the Prohibition Party, the Union Labor Party, the Populist Party. But Texas was busy passing its first anti-trust law, which culminated in the famous suit involving the Waters-Pierce Company.

The nineties had started. On May 5, the taxpayers voted on the issuance of bonds of \$1,400,000 for the new dam, and 1,354 voted pro, and 50 against, so work was started on November 5. Joseph P. Frizzell, an engineer who studied the situation in Austin, writing in the *North American Review* about the dam, said "It may be predicted with entire confidence that Texas, within the next 25 years, will contain cities of 200,000 and 300,000 people."<sup>80</sup>

The paper was commenting that it was time to extend the corporate limits of Austin, now  $4\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. Street sprinklers were being operated by Pat Rail, and had over 250 subscribers.<sup>81</sup> And the paper commented on Hyde Park being sold to a syndicate of northern capitalists.<sup>82</sup> Listed as owners about this time was the M. K. & T. Land and Town Company, Shipe and Lebold, both from Kansas, as agents, at 101 West 7. Hyde Park was an area of 206 acres, with lots selling for \$125 to \$200 each, with graded streets, free school, city water, gas, mail delivery, and electric car service. Payments on lots were \$5 monthly, and the area was advertised as 185 feet higher than town.

In 1890, the Commercial Club estimated Austin's population at 26,400, showing 16,250 in the original town, 2,500 in south Austin, 2,650 in north Austin, 500 in west Austin, and 4,500 in east Austin, which in the nineties in Austin, was the place to live. In 1890, Walker's Chile Factory started in Austin, too.

It was about this time that George W. Littlefield, who had come to Austin in 1883, sold his stock in the State National Bank to Pierre Bremond, and organized the American National Bank "southern" at a meeting in the Driskill Hotel on April 10, 1890, in the afternoon.<sup>83</sup> Littlefield became president; John H. Houghton, vice president; Wm. R. Hamby, cashier; and others who were directors were: Ike T. Pryor, L. A. Ellis, E. M. House, M. Butler, Edwin Wilson, J. G. Duffield, John H. Robinson, H. D.

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Patrick. They subscribed capital stock of \$100,000, and were soon in business at the corner of the Driskill Hotel, where they stayed for 21 years. Then, the bank was moved to the Littlefield Building, and Austinites knew well the murals there of the life Littlefield loved, the bronze doors, the cattle brands. By 1913, it was capitalized for \$300,000, with a record of an annual dividend every year to its stockholders.

Littlefield was one of the biggest men in Austin, in many ways, and he and his servant, Nath, who drove him around, were familiar figures. In 1903, H. A. Wroe, a nephew by marriage, came into the bank, and later was president, while Littlefield became chairman of the board. The bank stayed at the Littlefield Building location for over forty years, when it moved to its present location at Sixth and Colorado Streets.

Littlefield's later life was interwoven with the University of Texas, where he was a regent and donor of many great gifts. His feud with George W. Brackenridge was an old story, dating back mainly to Littlefield's strong sentiments about the South and the Civil War.

In Austin, April must have been the month for banks to begin, in 1890, because it was on April 16, 1890, that the first meeting of the board of directors of the Austin National Bank was held; the first meeting of the subscribers had been held the day before, on April 15, at the Driskill Hotel. Present at this meeting were: W. G. Bell, Nelson Davis, Ira H. Evans, T. W. Folts, C. W. Gilfillan, W. L. Gilfillan, H. P. Hilliard, Henry Hirshfeld, R. H. Kirby, P. J. Lawless, Charles Lundberg, E. T. Moore, W. Moses, Joseph Nalle, John B. Rector, M. A. Taylor, and Walter Tips.

Articles of association had already been signed by: Eugene C. Bartholomew, William G. Bell, Nelson Davis, J. M. Day, Ira H. Evans, T. W. Folts, William P. Gaines, August Giesen, Calvin M. Gilfillan, William L. Gilfillan, Louis H. Goldbeck, Daniel Grimm, J. W. Grant, R. S. Harrison, Philip Hatzfeld, H. P. Hilliard, Henry Hirshfeld, G. P. Hukill, R. H. Kirby, E. H. Lamberton, Henry Lamberton, H. W. Lamberton, R. G. Lamberton, S. C. Lewis, William Lockridge, Charles Lundberg, John McDonald, E. T. Moore, William Moses, Joseph Nalle, A. P. Plumer, John B. Rector, N. A. Rector, J. W. Robinson, Alfred Smith, M. A. Taylor, J. E. Thornton, Walter Tips, Thomas J. Tyner,

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R. G. West, Edward P. Wilmot, James Woodburn, R. H. Woodburn.

At the first board of directors meeting on April 16, 1890, there were present: E. C. Bartholomew, Ira H. Evans, C. W. Gilfillan, H. P. Hilliard, Henry Hirshfeld, S. C. Lewis, Joseph Nalle, M. A. Taylor, and Walter Tips. They elected the following officers: president, C. W. Gilfillan; vice presidents, Walter Tips and Henry Hirshfeld; cashier, H. P. Hilliard; assistant cashier, W. L. Gilfillan. C. W. Gilfillan resigned as president on October 15, 1890, and Edward P. Wilmot was elected president, with Henry Hirshfeld acting as president until Wilmot arrived from Pennsylvania in December, 1890, when he met with the board on December 8, 1890.

The new bank opened for business on June 16, 1890, in the Hancock Building (now the Capitol Theater on West Sixth Street), which was then owned by John and Lewis Hancock.<sup>84</sup> It moved to the 507 Congress location in 1895 and rebuilt there in 1902. A larger bank was built there in 1962.

That fall, on Wednesday night, October 15, a great crowd gathered downtown to celebrate the sale of bonds and letting of contract for the Austin dam. There was a bonfire at Pecan and Congress, with roman candles and rockets, and horns and hollering.<sup>85</sup>

Governor Hogg was Texas' first native-born governor, and after he died in 1906, there was planted at his grave, as he had requested, a pecan tree, which became the state tree, and also inaugurated arbor day for Texas. Under Hogg, the Railroad Commission became a reality on June 10, 1891.

By April 27, 1891, Austin had a new charter, and the boundaries of the city were extended, with 16 1/10 square miles being the area.<sup>86</sup> The Board of Trade was meeting to consider raising funds for the Texas building at the Chicago World Fair. And a new group, the Protective Association of the Retail Merchants was meeting for the first time at the Board of Trade hall at Congress and Pine. And Austin has had a weather bureau since July 1, 1891.

The tax rate in Austin was \$1.52, and the bridge at the foot of Congress was turned over to the city by the County of Travis.<sup>87</sup> Numbers were being assigned to houses and streets named, so that the postman could deliver mail to those who



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put up house numbers.

Progress showed up in new business, and in 1891, Austin had a shirt factory, run by Shapard and Smith, and there was a tomato cannery, too. Cook Funeral Home, too, had its start at this time.

Efforts were being made to have the military encampment permanently, and in 1891, it was held out in Hyde Park<sup>88</sup> Forty-eight volunteer companies arrived and lived in tents, and there was a 140-piece band. Adjutant General W. H. Mabry was in charge of the camp, called Camp Stanley then, and there were military balls and Germans held, too.<sup>89</sup>

The citizens were meeting at the Board of Trade Hall, to obtain the water works. Many met to watch the trains come in, with about 20 cars, each carrying two big blocks of granite for the new dam. And the old mules were being replaced slowly, by electric cars.

Fifty-seven men were living at the Confederate Veterans Home, and the Kickapoo Indians were in their wigwams down below the depot for a time. And there were complaints about loafers in front of the First National Bank every afternoon.

Mrs. Lizzie Streshley was busy in Austin, inventing her typewriter for the blind.<sup>90</sup> And citizens were looking over the new monument to the Alamo, in bronze, on Texas granite.

1892 saw much campaigning, and there were torchlight parades and barbecues for Clark, for governor. Scarbrough and Hicks were leasing the Kreisle Building on the Avenue, to open their store in January, 1893, and E. M. Scarbrough was in New York, on a buying trip.<sup>91</sup>

This was the age of advancement, and also the time when no one depended on the government to bail them out of bad spots. Austin in 1892, gave \$700 to drought-stricken southwest Texas.<sup>92</sup>

Locally, the paper was commenting in 1892, on the 23rd legislature being faced with the claim of the heirs of General T. J. Chambers for compensation for land on which Austin is located, listed as the Chambers grant, dating back to June 20, 1835; and a later settlement was made.<sup>93</sup> In 1892, Camp Mabry was donated to the State of Texas by a group of Austin citizens, for a permanent encampment site for the Texas Volunteer Guard, later the National Guard. It was named for General

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W. H. Mabry, who helped obtain the location, and later 90 more acres were added to the site.

In 1893, actor M. B. Curtis was here to buy the Drskill Hotel.<sup>94</sup> And everything and everybody was organizing. The Ancient Order of United Workmen organized with about 100 members.<sup>95</sup> The Peoples Building and Loan Association started with capital of about \$500,000,<sup>96</sup> and there was a National Savings and Loan Association of Austin, with about \$100,000.<sup>97</sup> The Automatic Clothes Line Company started with about \$30,000 capital,<sup>98</sup> and the Germozone Company with about \$8,000.<sup>99</sup> And Austin Oil Manufacturing Co. about \$50,000 capital stock.<sup>100</sup>

Advertising hit a new high that year when Scarbrough and Hicks and Sliver Butterine were doing a bit of advertising that fascinated the folks in 1893; they were throwing "stereoptican views" from the top of the old Samostz Building on canvas stretched along the First National Bank Building.<sup>101</sup> Scarbrough's had started their store as Scarbrough and Hicks on January 30, 1893, in a three-story brick building at 412-414 Congress, where they operated for a year, with about 30 employes in ten departments, under manager W. L. Bullock, before moving to the present site.

The outstanding event in Austin in 1893, was the completion of the new dam; most people on Sundays just boarded the street cars and rode out to see the great granite dam going across the Colorado River. They marveled at the million dollars it cost to raise this dam sixty feet high and twelve hundred feet long, creating a lake twenty-one miles long, with power going to the city and the new electric car lines.

When the dam was finished and dedicated in May, 1893, that area became the social center of Austin. Before that, the East Austin area had been the scene of socials. But the story of recreation and social life in Travis County is told in another chapter, which includes the days of steamers up the lake, rowing regattas, etc.

The local paper was commenting that there would never be a saloon at House Park.<sup>102</sup> And also that the governor's guard was drilling out under the tower in House Park, because 1894 was the year when Austin became famous for its towers. The city council on March 19, adopted the proposition,<sup>103</sup> and by July 21, ten or the towers were set up, of the thirty-one.<sup>104</sup>

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These towers are now landmarks in Travis County. And our forefathers were not just resourceful; they were typical Texas traders, for they swapped a railroad line for those unique towers, which were most modern in 1894, since street lights were impractical to the hilly terrain of Austin, which was also unpaved.

The railroad they traded was the narrow gauge one that was a dummy line out to the dam, to transport material for its construction. The trade was timely, because the dam was just completed, and the towers were turned on for the first time on May 6, 1895, and Austinites watched them during the months they were being set up; constructed of cast and wrought iron, the triangular framework is 150 feet high, and rests on a 15-foot iron base, making them 165 feet above the ground. It has been estimated that they light about four square blocks per tower; arc lights were originally used, then incandescent lamps, and Mayor Tom Miller had the mercury vapor lights installed. Each mercury vapor lamp of 400 watts produces 1600 candlepower, and with six lamps on each tower, 9600 candlepower is furnished.

There are only twenty-eight of these towers today; one was blown down in a cyclone many years ago, and one was toppled by a blow from a passing bus. Although the towers are anchored in their base, and steadied by steel cables running out from the tower, when the tower was hit by the bus, the guide cable snapped, and the tower crumpled. Picture shows towers as they look today.

They are irreparable and irreplaceable once they are down. There is a small elevator in the center of the tower to take repairmen to the top; there is also a ladder that is part of the tower.

To those who grew up in Austin, they are a part of its past, of children playing games at night, by their light. They knew our parents and our grandparents, in Austin's yesterdays; today, they welcome the tourists. Lofty in the sky, they are silent sentries of the city, and focus on the old and the new, lighting a century-old city, and they are as traditional as an album of Austin.

In the international news, in 1894, that war between China and Japan must have seemed far away to citizens in Austin, but there were Texans taking part in Coxey's march then, with



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20,000 people wanting work. At home in Austin, sugar was selling for about 2½ cents per pound and eggs for about 8 cents a dozen.

Austin was the topic of many booklets published during the 90's and from "Austin—1894—The Industrial Advantages of Austin, Texas," published by the Akehurst Publishing Company, 1894, we find that Austin had the largest United States courthouse and post office in the state. Also, that the five national and one private bank had a combined total of about a million dollars; there were 2,573 farm owners in Travis County, and 893 renters; the town had three miles of electric street cars, with the light company claiming the largest plant, artificial, that is, in the state; the city was claimed to be in the health belt of Texas; there were hotels, such as the Driskill, accommodating about 400; and the Hotels Orr and Salge, and the Avenue Hotel, with its courtyard, and a fringe of fig trees nearly half a century old. Prospective citizens were told that Austin area had over ten thousand acres; while city property was assessed at about \$11,000 in 1891, actually, it was claimed, worth double that. And it mentioned a state university with 335 students, and Tillotson College, "established and maintained by liberal northern people."

It was during 1895 that George Littlefield bought the Driskill Hotel for about \$106,000. And Austin was advertising its large oil manufacturing plant, here since 1893, with a \$75,000 plant, and running 75 tons a day.<sup>105</sup>

Then, there was another court case in Austin, called the river front case. It seems the city was located on land belonging to heirs of Stephen F. Austin, and they did not wish to sell it, so Chief Justice L. C. Cunningham, of Bastrop County, which once included all the Travis County area, appointed a committee of men to appraise the land, which they did at \$3.50 per acre; this price was then paid to the claimants, and the land was deeded to the Republic of Texas. When Austin was surveyed and laid out, the river front along River Walk was not included and did not form a part of Austin. In 1886, tenants along River Walk were leasing the land from the city, and about 1893, the State of Texas claimed the land, and attempted to claim taxes paid to the city by these people, which amounted to around \$7,200.<sup>106</sup>

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Austin was advertising in 1895, and ran a special Sunday excursion from Temple and Waco to Austin, on the Katy line, and showed the city to some 2,000 comers.<sup>107</sup>

The sportsmen of the state lashed out against the legislature in October, when a special session was called to stop the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight, and prize fighting became illegal and a penitentiary offense.

Many Texas boys were over at San Antonio volunteering for Roosevelt's Rough Riders, and the Spanish-American War.

One wonders what happened to the Bible of the Alamo, that the Senate, on March 23, 1895, appropriated \$1,000 to purchase; this Bible was on the body of William B. Travis when he fell at the Alamo.<sup>108</sup> Could it be the Bible that is used today for the swearing in of our governors?

In 1895, Representative Tompkins introduced a bill to allow women to vote.<sup>109</sup> And there was humor around the capitol, with Senator Jeff McLemore always introducing bills against hoop skirts or balloon sleeves.

A. C. Baldwin was in the printing business in a small shop in the Driskill Hotel, which was expanded in 1897 to use the entire floor, and by 1902 he was editor of the Statesman. Firm Foundation Publishing Company incorporated in 1895, with A. McGary, president, and G. J. Steck, business manager.

And as always, construction of any sort attracts onlookers, and that summer they were down in front of the new Austin National Bank building, where they watched the large blocks of polished granite going into the bank building.<sup>110</sup> And you will have to read the chapter on recreation and social life to learn where the bookmakers operated then.

William McKinley became our twenty-fifth president, to serve until he was shot on September 6, 1901, when he was succeeded by Teddy Roosevelt, vice president, and youngest president. McKinley was the first president to visit Austin, arriving here on Friday evening, May 3, 1901, about 4:30 in the afternoon. The crowd who met the Southern Pacific train from New Orleans, was impressed with the Texas star on the engine of the presidential train, and also on the pilot engine preceding the train, as a safety measure.

C. W. Raines, then state librarian, described the festivities in the "Year Book of Texas, 1901." There was a parade up the

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Avenue, with police, firemen, Brenham's 2nd Infantry band, Waxahachie Trumpet Corps, Confederate Veterans, and GAR members.

Drawn by two of Austin's best blacks, the president's carriage was decorated like a float, with sweet peas, cushioned with carnations, with lilies on each side, and all aflutter with red, white and blue streamers. At Fourth Street, on the Avenue, there was an elaborate arch overhead, and floral gates for the carriage to drive through, where Mayor White presented the president with a key to the city.

People came from all over Texas, and the procession went to the north gate of the capitol, where there was a huge Texas star, alight with 258 incandescent electric lights. There was a reception too, for President and Mrs. McKinley.

This all happened after the century ended, but McKinley was president during the last of the nineties. In Austin, a familiar figure then was P. J. Lawless, who was connected with the I & G N Railway here for 57 years, and left a legacy to Seton Hospital, and helped to advance Austin with other sturdy structures he helped to build.

In Austin, there were two notable events in 1897; on January 24, the city had a blizzard, and William Jennings Bryan spoke to the House and Senate, and students at the University, and also at the opera house on January 27. A reception was given by Elisabet Ney at her studio during Bryan's stay here, to honor him and Colonel House and Governor Hogg.

In 1898, it was ironical that war was declared on Spain on San Jacinto Day, April 21, and Austin people were learning about Dewey and Manila Bay. And Hawaii was being annexed by the United States. In Austin, District Attorney A. S. Burleson was offering his services in the war with Spain, and had a company of cavalry. The governor's guard was making plans to go in a group to that war, and Captain Roger Roberdeau was with them. William F. Stacy was working to mobilize troops from Texas, with headquarters changed from Houston to Austin, out at Camp Mabry, and the ladies of Austin presented the governor's guard with a silk flag.<sup>111</sup>

In 1898, the G. A. R. were meeting in Austin, and Terry's Texas Rangers, too. And many Austinies remember the Phil Hatzfeld store of the 90's. His descendants own today an



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emerald brooch which Elisabet Ney "pawned" with Hatzfeld, and which was given to her by Queen Viictoria.

Hatzfeld's store, at the corner where Williams' is today, made iits show windows attractive with dolls from abroad, especially at Christmas, and these dolls were dressed by dress-makers in the store, among them Misses Mary O'Brien, Georgia Maguire, Josephine Theis, and Condit. Hatzfeld went abroad every year to buy laces, and the latest in clothes. The story still persists in Austin about the prominent Austin society girl who, at the opening of the opera season each year, would come in and buy a beautiful hat, wear it to the opera that night, and return it to the store next day.

Others who worked in Hatzfeld's store were Frank Davis, Katie Schlickum, Lollie Lewis, Mary Johnson, John Claybrook, Alma Thiele Daniel, and Ed Hatzfeld, a nephew. Miss Mary Johnson, who lives in Austin today, remembers much about this store. Hatzfeld, a bachelor, went back to Germany, where he died, and Condit's operated the store. The same building stands today at Williams' corner, and if you look carefully on the south side, you can trace the lettering of the old store name.

It was during these years that Joe Koen became watch inspector for the H. & T. C. Railroad. H. H. Voss was opening his china store at 511 Congress,<sup>112</sup> and there were plans for a Natatorium at 5th and San Jacinto Streets, with a pool 65 feet long.<sup>113</sup> And Southern Beddng Manufacturing Company began in September, 1898.

Downtown in Austin, in the spring of 1899, there was comment over the Sunday closing law, and the condition of the streets, with the suggestion that some of the good gravel available should be spread on them, with crude petrol over that, "like Fort Worth has been doing."<sup>114</sup>

It was suggested that parks and pavement be planned, and there were editorials about taxes, like ". . . before Austin was head over heels in debt, taxes were 50 cents on the \$100. Now you pay \$2.50 . . ." <sup>115</sup> And the same paper suggested on June 14, 1899, that instead of voting more bonds, capital around the city should be invested in manufacturing businesses, and thus the indebtedness of one and one-half million dollars could be reduced.

There was agiitation for a street to be cut from the temporary capitol out to House Park, and there was comment, too,

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about some of the houses in Austin being left just like they were sixty years ago, in 1839, and that one man was shown a house to rent that "had portholes out for fighting the Indians."<sup>116</sup>

There were still saloons in Austin; the Iron Front at 605 Congress, with George Southernwood succeeding John B. Neff, as proprietor, and the Opera House Saloon at 110 West 6, with F. A. and Eugene Martin. And Tips Iron and Steel Company was starting in 1899. Inflation showed up in the price of rubber tires, which were selling then for \$25 to \$40.<sup>117</sup>

By fall, there was a coal famine in Austin; the oil mill was using cotton seed hulls for fuel, and the Lone Star Ice Company was working with wood; the miners' strike was felt in Austin.<sup>118</sup>

In September, there were comments about the dam being a failure, that it cost two million dollars, and yet has a hole in it in the bed of the lake thirty feet above the "perstocks."<sup>119</sup>

During 1899, in February, the historic Sam Houston bed, made in Philadelphia, a four-poster, was being moved into the mansion.<sup>120</sup> And on February 12, it was 3° below 0 in Austin.<sup>121</sup>

This was the year when Charles A. Culberson went out of the Governor's office, to serve a quarter of a century in the U. S. Senate, and Joseph D. Sayers, who had come to Texas from Mississippi in 1851, was governor, and lived a long lifetime at 709 Rio Grande Street in Austin. He was a schoolboy at the old Military School at Bastrop, was a major with the Confederates, and was twice governor. Dr. Joseph Anton Luthy came from Switzerland in 1899, and was a masseur in Austin for fifty years, and Mrs. Frithiof Schneider too, served in Austin from the turn of the century on, taking care of polio patients with therapy long before it was called polio. George Mabson, as the century ended became the first Negro bank messenger in Texas.

And it was in 1899, just as the century was closing, that Big Foot Wallace died; he was 82 years old; and had known Austin and Travis County when they began in 1839.

## CHAPTER VIII

# *Austin as It Was in 1899, Sixty Years After Its Founding*

A tour of the business district of Austin in the mid-nineties would have shown John Mangum and Company selling grains and groceries at 121-23 Congress, with E. M. Haynie there too, in 1893, and at the corner of Congress and Second, A. Gardiner and Company had lumber from about 1882 on.

Looking west from that corner of Congress and Second, the lumber company of William J. Sutor was at West 2nd and Lavaca, covering three city lots; this had been the Carmona Lumber Company in 1888, and Sutor's in 1890.

In the 300 block on Congress, the Hotel Salge, on the west side was in the building in the middle of the block. It was built in 1891, and run by W. H. Salge, across from the old Union Depot, and its three-story brick building had 25 rooms, which rented from \$1 per day, up. It had a bar and a dining room, and its restaurant seated about 100 people. At 323 Congress, John Hillebrand had a store selling farm equipment and wagons, that dated back to 1881. At 325-327 Congress, A. Michelson sold liquor in the old building at the southwest corner of Fourth and Congress, starting in 1886 as I. Michelson and Brother. On West 3rd Street, the Calcasieu Lumber Company incorporated in 1883, the business founded in 1882 by the Drake Brothers. Eight city lots were used for offices and lumber. H. J. Lutchter, Orange, was president of the company; G. B. Moore, San Antonio, vice president; C. F. Drake, Austin, treasurer; and W. S. Drake, secretary, originally. Farther west on 3rd Street, was Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association, with George P. Assman, as manager; vaults there held four carloads of lager, and they



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also sold Lone Star Beer made in San Antonio. At West 3rd and Guadalupe, A. H. Pressler was agent for the William J. Lemp Brewing Company, with a three carload capacity in their vaults. Paul Pressler and his son were later with this firm. Many Austin firms known today started in this era—Lamme's in 1885, Cook Funeral Home in 1891, Tips Iron and Steel Company in 1899.

The Board of Trade which started in 1887, and in 1899 had 200 members, was in the Board of Trade building at the northeast corner of the Avenue and Fourth Street, which cost \$35,000 in 1899. J. H. Raymond, Jr., had an insurance and real estate loan business started in 1883 by George P. Warner. Also in this building was John Orr, a wholesale grocer who had the first floor of the building, from 1886. Across the street, northwest corner, Nelson Davis and Company had a wholesale grocery store, in a two-story brick building, a business about ten years old. C. B. Moreland had a paint and paper shop at 412 Congress in 1893, and this was the Moreland-Keisel Company in 1888, doing business in their two-story brick building. This building, along with 414 Congress was occupied also by the year-old Scarbrough and Hicks firm, with 25-35 employees under manager W. L. Bullock. At 413 Congress, in a three-story brick building, Arthur J. Mays had his florist and seed shop and supplied flowers from his greenhouse in South Austin. His business was about seven years old and he specialized in roses, lilies, palms and plants for weddings, flowers for funerals, until August 3, 1893, when a fire ruined his place. At 416-418 Congress, in the McKean-Eilers building, N. V. Dittinger had a business dating back to 1885, handling furniture. This three-story building had an elevator, and plate glass windows 16 feet square, and housed twenty employees. L. Strassburger was at West 4th and Colorado Streets, in his wholesale business about 1894; this was the A. Michelson store of 1891, then L. Strassburger and I. Heidenheimer and Nelson Davis. At 300 West 4th, W. A. Glass had a coal and ice and wood business, which started in 1873. W. M. Hunter and Company were brokers at 109 E. 4th, in 1894. At 415 Congress, on June 1, 1894, Martin and Robinson had their feed store, with J. A. Martin, and Edward and Henry Robinson. Out on East 4th, at the corner of San Marcos Street, H. and A. Leser had a soap factory, founded by their father,

Jacob Leser, in 1854. In a two-story brick building, they had a 30-horsepower boiler and engine of 12 horsepower, giving a capacity of 18,000 pounds of soap per day, with such brands as "Boston Drummer," "Lone Star," "Mexican Gulf," "Morning Star" laundry soaps and "Mixed Honey" etc., toilet soaps. In October, 1893, J. B. Hamilton had his broker's office at 105 East 4th.

At the northwest corner of 5th and Congress, where Williams' is today, was probably Austin's most popular store—Phil Hatzfeld and Company. In 1876 the store was started as Newman and Company, and in 1886, Hatzfeld became a partner and later owned the store. Forty dressmakers and millinery makers were employed, which made it a sizeable establishment for Austin. Each year, Hatzfeld went to France, and brought back designs for clothes which were made for people all over the United States, averaging about 150-200 a month; "recherche hats and bonnets not surpassed at the fashionable establishments on Regent Street in London or at the Magasin der Louvre in Paris."<sup>1</sup> Over sixty people were employed at his Austin store, and he also had an office in New York City.

Across the street, at the other corner of Congress and 5th, was McKean-Eilers and Company, which in 1880 had been Crow, McKean and Company, and they had "commercial travelers."<sup>2</sup> Traveling salesmen!

Next door to Hatzfeld's Store, Alonzo Robinson had his place of business at 504 Congress. In 1858, Robinson and Son had started selling groceries, and by 1894, he was featuring "olives from Spain, sardines from France, caviars from Russia, and cheeses from England . . ."<sup>3</sup> Eugene Robinson remembered that in the 1850's, his father had a wagon yard below the store, at the location where Hatzfeld's store was in 1894.

At 505 Congress, was the Bazaar, or "The Checkered Front" store started in 1887 by Fenner and Cypher, and owned in 1891 by Theodore Low, who ran it in a two-story brick building.<sup>4</sup> At 506-508 Congress, in another two-story brick building, William Lochridge and Company had their brokerage, and sold groceries and grains, from 1893. Lochridge was president of the company, J. D. Howson, vice-president, and R. C. Roberdeau, secretary and treasurer. At 509 Congress, W. T. Wroe had his saddle and harness shop, started in 1886. At 510 Congress, G. C.

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Bengener and Brother had a hardware store, dating back to 1887, and at 517-519 Congress, Bohn Brothers had a dry goods store. Over at the corner of Colorado and West 5th, William Stiles and R. E. Rife had fruits, foreign and domestic; in January, 1883, they had taken over the business of R. Bertram and Company, and were operating in 1893 in a two-story, rock building. At 117 E. 5th, W. Quebedaux had his fruit and produce store.

At the southeast corner of Sixth and Congress, at 521-525 Congress, Abe Williams had the Capital Clothing House, started in 1866 by Henry Hirshfeld, and bought by Williams in 1886; Williams was a "member of all Masonic bodies, here, and also of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Honor, Ancient Order United Workmen."<sup>5</sup>

Out on East 5, was the Arlington Iron Works, of L. P. Clark, founded in 1877; this firm furnished the iron work for the First National Bank Building, those old iron stairs at the Land Office Building, and at the University.

At the northwest corner of Sixth and Congress, where Woolworth's is, was the First National Bank, incorporated in 1873, and reorganized in 1893, with E. M. Pease as its first president. Just above them, on the same side of the Avenue, was the J. H. Raymond Company, bankers, dating back to 1860, and in the nineties having Frank Hamilton and J. R. Johnson as associates. Also at the corner of Sixth and Congress, was the Central Drug Store of A. Giesen, dating back to 1875, in the name of Oscar Samostz, and A. Giesen in 1890. Up above the First National Bank, Tom Murrah had his land and insurance office at rooms 12 and 13, a business dating back to 1876, and of him, the booklet *Austin, Up To Date*, says—"He is a member of all the Masonic bodies here and also of many other secret organizations."<sup>6</sup> In room 15, C. H. Cothran and Company were brokers in grains and stocks, with private wires, and Aetna Life Insurance Company was housed here.

At 603 Congress, S. Goldstein and S. Philipson had their cigar store; in 1873 this had been S. Philipson and Levy until 1877, when the new owners took over, and in 1894 ran it in their two-story brick building, famed for their "Honeysuckle," "Texas Horned Frog" and "Golden Bell" cigars selling for five cents. Across the street, at 605 Congress, where Ellison Photo is lo-



cated, was the Iron Front Saloon, run by Frank Wedig and George Southerwood. Founded in 1866, it was operated earlier by John B. Neff, and the "barroom is adorned with a large number of natural history specimens and hunting trophies." At the back was a billiard hall, domino tables, etc.

At 604 Congress, Don Wilson had his dry goods and clothing store, started in 1886, and at 606 Congress, the Austin Shoe Company, of A. I. Haber, was run by W. G. Belding and Company. Thomas Looke had his Looke's English Kitchen at 609 Congress, which had started in 1884, and which sold meals in the nineties for two-bits; he was also proprietor of the Avenue Hotel. At 610 Congress, was the Burt Shoe Company of H. R. and S. M. Burt; in 1887 it was Lewis and Peacock. Brown Brothers, at 614 Congress, were land mortgage bankers, and this firm was started in 1883 by R. L. and J. Gordon Brown. At 620 Congress, W. F. McGehee had his real estate office, and W. Moses and Son were at 621-623 Congress, where the Tally-ho is located. This clothing store, dating back to 1874, was in a three-story brick building there. At 622 Congress, J. M. Peacock and Ed R. Smith had their insurance office.

Around the corner on East Sixth Street, at 103, R. M. Thomson and John R. Donnan had their land agency from about 1883. At 105 East 6th Street, the Bergen, Daniel and Gracy Abstract Company, had C. W. Daniel for president, W. H. Stacy for vice president, and D. B. Gracy for secretary. At 107 East 6th, Irving Eggleston and L. N. Goldbeck were brokers and land agents, over the State National Bank, in that building, in a firm dating to 1870; when E. T. Eggleston died in 1884, Goldbeck took over the firm. The State National Bank, in its location there at the alley, started in 1882, and in 1894 had a surplus of \$50,000, with Eugene Bremond as president; Lewis Hancock, vice president; J. G. Palm, cashier; and Walter Bremond, assistant cashier. Across the alley, at 109-113 East 6th, John Bremond and Company had a store which started in 1847, and had become the John Bremond and Company in 1865. In the nineties, John H. Robinson, Jr., was associated with this firm, and their dry goods store was on East Sixth, with the grocery department on Brazos, and they too, kept an office in New York City. For a time, W. B. Walker had his grocery store at 115 E. 6th. Across the street, in the Driskill Hotel, at the

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corner, was the American National Bank, and its May 4, 1894, statement showed a surplus of \$35,000, for this four-year-old bank.

At 200-202 East 6, G. F. Hamilton had his dry goods store, in a two-story brick building; this was founded in 1870 by S. Longini. Morley Brothers had their drug store at 206 East 6th, from about 1874, and S. K. Morley ran the Austin drug store, while W. J. Morley ran their St. Louis manufactory. They featured "German Sarsaparilla," "Marvelous Mexican Medicine" and "Lemon Chill Cure."<sup>s</sup> J. H. Warmoth was at 208-210 East 6th, manufacturing and selling saddles; this firm had started in 1877 as Padgett and Warmoth, and in 1893 became Warmoth's. John A. Webb and Brother were at 212-216 East 6th, with their implement store started in 1872.

At 306 East 6th, the Kluge Brothers, H. T. and C. W., were in a two-story brick building, with a show room downstairs for saddles and such, and a workroom upstairs, and close by was the St. Charles Hotel, run by Albert Friske. Milburn Wagon Company was at 407 East 6th, also in a two-story building. W. H. Richardson Hardware Company was at 401-405 East 6th; this firm was started in January, 1893, and included a business founded in 1889 by W. F. Avery and Son. Zakrison Bakery was at 408 East 6th Street. At 601-617 East 6th, Nalle and Company had their lumber business, founded in 1871 by Joseph Nalle, who was joined in the nineties by his son, Edgar J. Nalle.

On West 6th, in the Hancock Building was the Austin National Bank. At 117 West 6th, H. F. Porter had his grocery store, which was founded in 1889 by E. Danegger. At 122 West 6th, was the Statesman Publishing house, which had incorporated in 1882, with Peyton Brown as president, John W. Maddox as vice president, and Robert M. Hamby as secretary; the paper was published daily, and also weekly every Thursday for the counties of Central Texas. The Austin White Lime Company was at 202 West 6th, with A. F. Martin as proprietor; this firm had begun in 1888 as Martin and Walker, and was bought out by A. F. Martin in 1889, and their lime works north of Austin had a gin, merchandise store, etc., and employed 30-50 men. At 206 West 6th, C. J. Martin had his seed and feed store, from 1886.

At Seventh and Congress, and seeing Austin as it was in

about 1894,—over at 101 West 7th, L. C. Ryan had an insurance office, and at 107 West 7th, Paul Millet had his outfitting store for men, with made-to-order clothes.

At 106 East 7th, H. P. Rose and Andrew Townsend had a tailor shop, and the Peoples Building and Loan Association was at 108 West 7th, with Dr. M. A. Taylor, president; A. N. Leitnaker and Charles Lundberg, vice president; E. P. Wilmot, treasurer; J. B. Suttler, secretary; and D. W. Doom, attorney. The Eclipse Stables were on the north side of East Seventh Street, run by Monroe Miller. His father, John T. Miller, started these stables in 1855, and they were housed in a brick and stone building that ran back through to Eighth Street. On the first floor were about 100 stalls, with about 30 outside, and upstairs were the hearses and buggies, etc. The undertaking establishment was here, too, as was a blacksmith. R. C. Ehlert was embalmer, and the transfer business of the city was taken care of by this firm, transporting luggage and passengers to the depot, etc. Carriages for hire were used for balls and funerals, and forty men were employed. At the corner of 7th and Brazos, William Pendleton Gaines had a land and loan business, dating back to 1872. It was his firm that sold the Driskill Hotel for \$342,794 in the 90's.<sup>9</sup>

On the Avenue, at 704 Congress, De Cordova and Son had their real estate office, founded in 1848 by P. De Cordova; they had handled the promotion of Fairview Park in South Austin. H. R. Marks had his photographic shop at 705; this man had come here as a boy in 1839, and had been in business at the same spot since 1870. Philip Bosche had his Bosche's Troy Laundry at the same address, 705 Congress, in part of this building, and one can see his name on the north side of the building. Thomas Goggan and Brother had a piano company at 711 Congress, with T. Schering as manager for four years. At 713 Congress, A. L. Teagarden and Company had stoves and hardware; in the early 80's, this was the firm of Copes and Bass, and they featured "Brilliant" and "Woodlawn" stoves. Robert Gribble was general agent for the Equitable Life Assurance Company at 722 Congress, and J. W. Maxey was a civil engineer at the same address. Maxey came to Austin in 1887 as a graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy, and helped to plan Lake View Park, which was about where Taylor's Slough is



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located. Zick Melasky, tailors' agent, shared the same address, 722 Congress, and he was also dramatic and social editor of the Evening News. The Avenue Hotel at the southeast corner of 8th and Congress was owned by Looke and Bader. This hotel which opened in the sixties, and remodeled in 1888, had rooms renting for \$2 - \$2.50 per day, in 1894, and was run by N. J. Bader and T. Looke. And the 100 block of West 8th, running up to the city hall, was called the Litten block.

Also at Congress and 8th, was the Columbian Dental Association, founded by Dr. C. B. Stoddard around 1878, and run in 1894 by Dr. W. S. Huntington. At 804 Congress, was John B. Vinson and Company, with real estate, loans, and insurance in 1891, and Charles M. Roberts was associated in this business with him. George S. Criser and George W. Massie had their grocery store at 807 Congress, originally the store of Wayland and Criser in 1879. At 810 Congress, Ed H. Taylor and J. E. Bouldin had land and loans, and this had been L. M. Odom and Company in the 80's. E. B. Robinson had a grocery store at 814 Congress, and sold fancy foods in the two-story brick building there; this had been the business of Randolph and Robinson in 1889. At the corner of 8th and Congress, called Tobin's corner, John H. Houghton and John Robinson had wines, liquors and cigars in their three-story brick building, for about eighteen years earlier, selling their "Royal Club," "Horse" and "Monte Carlo" whiskies.<sup>10</sup> Wilhite's Candy Works was at 802 Congress, and manufactured candy in their two-story building. On his candy boxes, Mr. Wilhite used a picture of his own two children, a boy and a girl, with the words underneath, "Wilhite's Sweets."<sup>11</sup> William H. Stacy had real estate and insurance at 824 Congress; in 1890, this was the Austin Real Estate and Abstract Company, but by 1893, all of the abstract companies had consolidated under Bergen, Daniel and Gracy Abstract Company, with W. H. Stacy handling the real estate. It was about 1901 before J. R. Reed Music Company started and became an institution for over half a century at 805 Congress.

At 108-112 East 8th Street, Weed's Stables were run by V. O. Weed and S. E. Rosengren, and they were also undertakers, and associated with them was Dr. A. T. Quisenberry, veterinarian.

R. Renz had his tailor shop at 903 Congress, and at 905

Congress, Clay Jones was making ice cream by steam. His business had been founded in 1878, and he made candy too, in his two-story building. Up on the second floor, he had an ice cream parlor. He used a 17-horsepower engine and put out 250 gallons of ice cream daily, which he sold wholesale too, and this was the largest project of its kind in Texas then. At 912 Congress, J. W. Graham and Thomas M. Andrews had their drug store, which had been founded in 1873 by Baker and Graham. At 918 Congress, P. H. Goldmann and Company had a grocery, founded in 1883 by A. S. Johnson, and they handled the "firm's own brand of 'Snow Drift' and flour."<sup>12</sup> Professor D. A. Griffiths had his Griffiths College of Commerce in the Brueggerhoff Building, at the southeast corner of Tenth and Congress, and he placed his students in jobs. At 914-916 Congress, there was a Racket Store, truly an institution of the nineties, owned by A. J. Sauter and H. W. Hallock, who called themselves "dealers in everything." They had been doing business in their own two-story brick building since 1889, with "Everything for Everybody."<sup>13</sup>

Around the corner, at 103 West 9th, was Austin Bichloride of Gold Institute, "to cure persons having the drink, tobacco, or opium habit." Doctors Bragg and Morrow claimed a three-week cure for drink, at a charge of \$100; for tobacco, only 10 to 14 days, for \$25; for opium, six weeks for \$100 to \$150.<sup>14</sup>

The block between Tenth and Eleventh Streets on the Avenue is a historic one. The present Mutual Savings Institution, in its new building, occupies the site of the old War Department of the Republic of Texas, later the site of the Clarence Woodward saloon, and the nearby Alhambra Hotel, in that half block; O. Henry's paper, *The Rolling Stone*, was published on the site facing East Tenth Street.

Across the Avenue on the west side was the Lundberg Bakery, now a landmark in Austin. It is interesting to know that four bakers employed at one time in Chas. Lundberg's bakery, went on to own bakeries of their own: Arnold's Bakery, Stolley Bakery, Maerki Bakery, and the foreman, Frank R. Zakrison, had his Lone Star Bakery at 412 East Sixth Street and later his East Austin Bakery for about 25 years.

Over on the south side, Michael Butler was manufacturing bricks by the river, above the railroad bridge, on an 86-acre

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tract, where he had 30 men working for him in a business dating back about 28 years prior to 1894.

At 200-208 West 13th, Joseph Goodman had his store where he sold country produce and such; this business, founded about 1870, was in a two-story brick building, and delivery of groceries was made to any part of Austin.

On Colorado Street, between 5th and 6th, H. S. Rosette and F. M. Beaty had buggies and carriages in a two-story rock building, and here, Fred S. Boutall was their carriage maker for some 30 years, and did horseshoeing too. At the foot of Colorado Street, the Lone Star Ice Company, dating back to 1885, had J. T. Brackenridge as president and A. J. Zilker as manager.

Out on the east end of town, the Austin Oil Manufacturing Company operated with D. H. Caswell of Nashville, as president, W. F. Crawford as vice president, P. J. Lawless as secretary and treasurer; this business started about 1891 and employed 40 men to handle the cotton seed oil and meal business.

At West 14th and Colorado, Macken, Russell and Macken, was a firm composed of John Macken, William A. Russell, and Joseph Macken, founded in 1871 by A. J. Jernigan, and by 1893 had one-fourth of a city block for show rooms and shops. Their monuments became famous in Austin, and advertisements show that the John Bremond monument from their shop cost \$6,000; J. H. Raymond's, \$1,000; and the Scarbrough monument cost \$2,500.<sup>15</sup>



## CHAPTER IX

# *Development of Schools in Travis County*

A common and constant criticism during the dawning days of Texas under Mexico and as a Republic, was the want of provision for education. In Travis County, schools were as scarce as in other counties of Texas. Mirabeau B. Lamar, in his first message to Congress after being elected president in 1838, urged the appropriation of lands for schools, and on January 26, 1839, an act was passed allotting lands for the establishment of education in Texas, with each county to receive three leagues of land for schools, and fifty leagues were appropriated for the establishment of two colleges or universities.

As action still was slow in starting, some settlers paid local teachers and provided a place for schools. Many simply sent their children back to home states; Lamar sent his daughter, Rebecca Ann, to Georgia in the early 1840's. A few boarding schools started, and Frances L. Trask, of Gloucester, Massachusetts, operated Texas' first such school in 1835,<sup>1</sup> and came to Austin as an early Travis County teacher.<sup>2</sup>

When Austin was founded in 1839, Edwin Waller as authorized, set aside lots for schools and churches in the new capital city, and these locations can be seen on the layout of the original Austin. Pease School is located at the site scheduled for a university, and Austin High School is at the site marked for an academy.

It would be difficult to determine the influence of the few schools of those early days of Texas and Travis County. Schools and churches were the centers of communities during the regime of the Republic and early statehood of Texas. Facilities were provided by the pioneering settlers, and many smaller communities were named for the man who donated the land for the first school and church. Early schools subsisted on subscriptions in the communities. Later, in the common school

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districts the county received taxes of 20% of the property evaluated in each district. Records and statistics are scarce for the early county schools, but by the early 1900's, local taxes for schools were the trend, and illustrations of this are Esperanza No. 7, which voted a tax of 10c on each \$100 valuation in the district; Decker No. 19, 5c; Pecan Springs No. 61, 15c; Elroy No. 64, 20c; Creedmoor No. 41, 20c; Govalle No. 18, 15c; and Richland No. 27, 20c; Hornsby-Dunlap No. 33, 10c; Turner No. 42, 20c; Sprinkle No. 17, 15c; Rose Hill No. 21, 10c; Cottonwood No. 29, 20c; Carl No. 40, 20c; Manchaca No. 44, 20c; Maha No. 68, 20c. It is noted that most of the schools in Travis County, outside of Austin, started after the Civil War.<sup>3</sup>

**Bee Cave.** In 1882, a school was started in a 10x12 rock building.

**Bluff Springs.** Also in 1882, this community built their school at a spring near Onion Creek, in southern Travis County.

**Brewton Springs.** The school started in 1879 on the Allen farm; a school was built in 1881 on the Brewton farm and later on the Thomas Riley place.

**Carlson.** In 1881, the first school was built, and in 1907 a newer school was built north of the original one.

**Cedar Valley.** A school was started in 1867 on land belonging to Mark Thomas, and a log house was used until about 1875, when a new building was constructed.

**Colorado.** The county school started here in 1876, near Del Valle.

**Colorado Springs.** The first school and church in this community in southeastern Travis County were in a log cabin on land donated by Nicholas McArthur. After the Civil War, a Negro school started, and one for Mexican children later.

**Cottonwood.** This school was started about 1895, and was called Bitting's School.

**Cox Springs School.**

**Creedmoor.** The first school was built in 1880, several miles from the present location; for a time it was where the gin is situated, and was once called the Willow Springs School. In the early 1900's, a four-room building was constructed at the site of the school now used, but the cyclone of 1921 destroyed it.

**Cypress.** In the late 1860's, a school was started in a log house

## *Development of Schools in Travis County*

at the present school location, and the structure also served as a church. By October 1, 1877, residents of the community subscribed money for a new building, in amounts ranging from fifty cents to \$100.

**Decker.** The settlers built their first school in 1882, and the one-room building was later expanded to accommodate the increased enrollment.

**Del Valle.** It was in the 1890's before a school was started here.

**Eanes.** This is a name that people in the western part of Travis County know, and the school is still located on the Bee Cave Road, where the first school was built in 1862 by Robert Eanes and George Norvell. Eanes, for whom the school and community were named, came to Travis County from Mississippi. Progressing from a common school district, which received 20% of the area's state and county taxes for their school, Eanes was an independent school district in 1958, and receiving 50%.

**Elroy.** In 1894, there was a school at this community in southeastern Travis County, with space and teachers added as needed.

**Esperanza.** A log cabin served as the first school for this part of northwestern Travis County near Spicewood Springs from 1866 to about 1873; then, the location was changed to one close to the county farm until about 1893, when it was moved to the old Georgetown Road, and a new building was constructed later.

**Fairview School.** (See Nameless)

**Fiskville.** The school in 1857 was located in a stone building, which burned and was replaced by a three-room frame, and in 1958 there was a brick building.

**Garfield.** A log cabin served as school and church, with one room, one window, and one teacher. This was called Haynie's Chapel until the time of President Garfield, when it was changed, in 1892, and there was a new frame school.

**Govalle.** This school in 1870 was located between Boggy Creek and the railroad, on the Webberville Road, and was called Govalle School House No. 18, of Travis County. It was a county school in 1891.

**Gregg.** The Gregg School was in northeastern Travis County between Pflugerville and Manor, on a site donated by Wil-



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liam Stiles in 1870, was a rock structure called Gilleland Creek Academy, and students were charged a fee for tuition. About 1888, the community was called Gregg, so the school took that name. At the end of the century, this old building was replaced, and served as a church known as the Rock Church, which many remember today.

**Hamilton Pool.** The first school was started about 1899, and named for the creek of that name; a better school was built later on land donated by the Reimers family, who own the pool.

**Haynie Flat.** The school was built in 1879 and named for the man who donated the land, and was situated half in Travis County and half in Burnet County.

**Hornsby-Dunlap.** There were two schools at the settlement of Reuben Hornsby, the Hornsby School and the Dunlap School, just three or four miles apart, and they were consolidated in the early 1900's. A rock church building constructed by the Hornsby family in 1867 served as their first school.

**Kimbro.** It was near the end of the century before a school was started in this community.

**Littig.** The school was called Bitting's School for Captain J. W. Bitting who gave the customary acre of land for the school and church, about 1887. It is located on Wilbarger Creek in eastern Travis County.

**Lund.** Also in the eastern part of Travis County, this community built its school in about 1894, with classes starting on January 1, 1895. It was called Pleasant Hill until about 1899.

**Maha.** The first school was built in the early 1890's, in their community in the southeastern corner of Travis County.

**Manchaca.** The first school was built in 1902 of the usual type, and in 1957, a new building was constructed, to replace the old grammar school.

**Manor.** This community named for James Manor, one of Travis County's first settlers, started its school in 1858. Early teachers were C. Yellowly, D. H. Bittle, Joe Rogers, and W. I. Wroe.

**Merrilltown.** The school of the community started by Captain Nelson Merrill still stands, and many Austin people remem-

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ber school days there. In 1850, there was a church, a school, and a hotel at Merriltown.

**Nameless.** The old church and school and cemetery are there by the creek today, reminders of the community which was once called Fairview. The school was built on land donated by Bell Turner.

**New Sweden.** The school in this community, started about 1873, was also used for a church.

**Nichols.** About the end of the century, the Nichols school began on land of Sam Nichols, replacing the Oak Grove School, which had served the children of the area. Later, the school burned.

**Norwood.** This school started in the seventies, in the usual one-room log house, and in about 1888 it was torn down and a new building put up on land donated by J. R. Faubion.

**Oak Grove.** Should have been named for the cedar trees which surrounded its location around Bull Creek. This school started in 1864.

**Oak Hill.** Their first school was in 1856, when it was called Live Oak Springs School, with J. A. Baker as teacher, and school continued in the usual log cabin until the Civil War. In 1865, their school was in a log building on the Wheeler place, called Shiloh. By 1879, there was a school in Oatmanville, later named Oak Hill, on land donated by Peter Thompson, in a one-room frame building.

**Pecan Springs.** Near the location of the scalping of Josiah P. Wilbarger in the 1830's, this was a county school in 1875.

**Pflugerville.** This community, settled in about 1849, had its first school in a house on the Lisso farm, where church services were also held. This first building was built of logs by slaves, and called the ranch school, and later moved to the Carrington place, and later to the site of the church, built in 1875.

**Pilot Knob.** In 1892 a school was started in this community.

**Pleasant Grove.** There was a school here when the community was called Cat Hollow, and a new school was built in the 1900's about 30 miles west of Austin, and about 12 miles east of Spicewood.

**Pleasant Hill.** See Lund.

**Pleasant Valley.** The first school was a log cabin building in

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1867 on the Walden farm; a later school burned in 1885, and was rebuilt. The Champion family donated the land for a school, which was later consolidated with Summitt and later was in the Austin Independent School District, when the school site reverted by sale to Mrs. C. C. Champion, as provided in the original deed.

**Prairie Hill.** This school close to Brushy Creek has had many names—Robinson Hill, Schiller, Bohemian, and then Prairie Hill.

**Richland.** The home of F. Schmidt, Jr., was the site of the first school in 1877, and his donation of land enabled them to build a school in 1878. Land for the later school was provided by Travis County, and during the early eighties, Reverend Schroeder took care of the teaching and preaching for this community.

**Rose Hill.** The first school was started in 1879, and also served as a church; by 1880, Henry Nelle donated land for a school and church and cemetery. It has also been called Nelleville, and was located near Manor.

**Round Mountain School.** Started in 1870's in a log cabin, and in 1888 a new building was constructed on land donated by J. R. Faubion.

**Schiller.** The school started in 1889; was enlarged in 1894.

**Sprinkle.** In 1894, the school was started in this community.

**St. Elmo School.** In 1905, this school was started, but it was originally on South First Street. See Chapter I.

**Summitt.** Started in 1894, and consolidated with Watters about 1906.

**Teck.** By 1890, there were two school nearby, at Hudson Bend and Hirsh Creek. These were combined and a building constructed at the site of the Teck store; later, it was moved to the present location.

**Travis Peak.** Herman L. Hensel, who settled in this community in the 1850's, collected money for their first school; it was built across Cow Creek from his place. Mrs. Joe Prowse of Austin, formerly Belle Hensel, taught in this school in 1898.

**Turnerville.** M. L. Turner in 1880 donated the land for the first school, and additions were made to it by the 1900's.

**Webberville.** In 1850, there were two churches, a hotel, two



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schools, and five stores here.

**Willow Ranch.** In 1898, a school was built on land of P. C. Wells near the creek.

The first school in Austin presumably was at the site where St. Mary's Academy was later. It was in operation in December, 1839, by a Mrs. Strenger and was called The Primary School.<sup>4</sup> Pupils included Jim Robinson, Frances McKenzie (later Mrs. Scott Wear), Bill Custard, Tom Dietrich, and the son of Judge Lee.<sup>5</sup>

Also, in 1839, the Presbyterian Church group was collecting money for a school in Austin, with James Burke as receiver, and nearly \$2,000 was gathered.<sup>6</sup> Later, a committee was appointed to construct the building.<sup>7</sup>

In 1840, Miss Sarah Humphries' group of school children were featured in a program at the capitol. When Amos Roark took the census in Austin in 1840, his report showed 856 people, with 100 children in the week-day school.<sup>8</sup>

On February 5, 1840 another educational bill was passed, naming the Chief Justice and two Associate Justices as school commissioners of each county in the state, to survey and locate the three leagues of land to be sold and to establish the schools with the proceeds. School districts were to be provided in each county, teachers to be employed, and schools to be supervised. Again, there was not much action taken since it was not easy to sell some of the land, and the schools in each county were not started as scheduled.

In its editorials, in 1841, the *Gazette* was stressing that the school system had not been set up in the Republic, despite the fact that during President Lamar's term the public school system had been granted three leagues of land in each county in 1839, and 50 leagues of land had been provided for the university.

From 1842 to 1845, nothing was done about schools. When Texas was annexed in 1845, provision was made for the state to provide free schools, to be supported by taxes, with the legislature empowered to set aside not less than one-tenth of the annual revenue from taxes, and from lease of school lands. Again, no action was taken until about 1854 because there was reluctance to tax for education, and the revenue from school lands was too small. The question of education recurred each

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term, and was always a source of study and comment by each governor. But education was still a matter of private citizens' responsibility during the 1840's.

In Austin and Travis County, churches served as schools on week days when teachers could be found. Often the preacher of Sunday was the teacher on weekdays. One Methodist minister, Homer S. Thrall, who was named to the Austin circuit in 1846, taught school in the capitol after it was vacated by the lawmakers on into 1847.<sup>9</sup>

Miss Frances Trask was teaching in Austin in 1846, and N. S. Rector opened his Colorado Female Academy.<sup>10</sup> By late 1847, The Austin Academy was advertising for pupils, with Charles Wright as principal and Robert Rowe as assistant.<sup>11</sup>

The Colorado Female College started classes in October, 1848.<sup>12</sup> This academy had the ghosts of de Saligny there when C. A. Howell and his wife, Maria, started their classes out on Robertson Hill, at the old home of the French minister, and continued until late 1849, when Dr. Joseph W. Robertson, former rangre and mayor, bought the old embassy and lived there about twenty years.<sup>13</sup>

Robert Rowe must have left the Austin Academy and started his own school about five miles southeast of Austin, where Rowe's Select Academy was opened.

There was a high school with classes in the capitol in 1848, with Captain J. G. Swisher as registrar, and C. E. Farley teaching.<sup>14</sup>

By 1850, the Austin Male and Female Academy was opened on January 1, by Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Lafferty.<sup>15</sup> On July 9, 1850, the Austin Male Academy of C. E. Farley was established.<sup>16</sup> This school seems to have continued in 1852 and 1853.<sup>17</sup>

It is interesting that several academies started in Travis County; since these were sort of secondary schools, they represented progress for the people.

Frances Trask, who was teaching school in Austin in 1846, married William Thompson, the hotel keeper, in 1850. They managed the Swisher Hotel and when Thompson died, she started teaching school again.

In 1850, DeWitt C. Baker moved to Austin, as a druggist. Later he helped plan the Austin public schools, and Baker School was named for him. His brother, Thomas, too, was a contribu-

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tor to education in Austin.

The Austin Female Academy of Baptist minister, G. G. Baggerly, often later called the West Pecan Female Academy, was having classes in 1850 in a building west of the capitol,<sup>18</sup> and was in its own building on West Pecan by 1851.<sup>19</sup> This later was B. J. Smith's school. The board of trustees included Colonel C. Kyle, Nicholas McArthur, J. Burleson, Nathaniel Townsend, James Manor, Joseph Rowe, A. Grooms, George Glasscock, W. B. Burdett, J. W. Hampton, Thomas H. Jones, and J. B. Banks.<sup>20</sup> In May, 1851, Baggerly's Female Academy entertained at the capitol, closing with a coronation and dance.

According to Kate Merritt Clarkson in *Women Tell the Story of the Southwest*, when the Ursuline Convent opened in San Antonio in 1851, many Austin girls went to school there in the fifties and sixties, including the Bremonds, Burlesons, Fraziers, Grahams, Kinneys, and Robinsons.

More schools started in Austin in the 1850's. Mrs. F. M. Foster opened her Select School,<sup>21</sup> and Gray and Duffau were selling school books. William Smith started his Austin Female Seminary on December 1, 1851.<sup>22</sup> Mrs. C. E. Townsend was advertising a school in September, 1853.<sup>23</sup> Reverend B. J. Smith, a Presbyterian minister, was operating the Austin Collegiate Female Institute starting April 19, 1852, and in 1854 held classes in the basement of the new Presbyterian Church. This school covered quite a curriculum: reading, writing, spelling, mental arithmetic, geography, grammar, rhetoric, logic, botany, philosophy (natural, mental and moral), chemistry, geography of the heavens, algebra, plane and spherical geometry, trigonometry, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Spanish, French, oil painting, waxwork, shellwork, and music. Smith contributed about thirty years to schools and education in Austin. By 1855, his school had eight teachers.<sup>24</sup>

The Austin Masonic Lodge #12 was planning a school in Austin, named the Austin Masonic High School,<sup>25</sup> but no record was found of its starting.

In 1853 and 1854, there was a Mrs. Kyle who had a children's school in Austin.<sup>26</sup> Also, a Mr. J. Buchanan and Mrs. Robertson had started their schools. A Mr. Calhoun had the Austin Male Academy in 1853, and Mrs. C. E. Townsend was teaching in a larger building on College Avenue.<sup>27</sup>



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In 1853, Thomas Jefferson Johnson, from Virginia, built his home out at the site of the Friday Mountain Camp near Driftwood, about eighteen miles from Austin, and conducted his school there a century ago. This school, Johnson's Institute, was supervised by him until he died in 1868, and his children continued it until 1872. Johnson and his wife and family are buried at this scenic site. One of his daughters, Lizzie Johnson, was a well-known cattle woman in Austin during the last years of the century.

Because a surveyor named Hudson, carrying on his work out of Bastrop, camped there and surveyed it on a Friday, he named the mountain across the valley Friday Mountain. Later, Dr. Walter P. Webb, Texas historian, gave this name to the camp which he and Dr. R. J. Kidd, Interscholastic League director, conducted there for children. It is out on the Camp Ben McCulloch Road, and children camping there today ring the **same bell** that Johnson brought from his Virginia home, once used to call the slaves.

The old school and camp have a setting at Bear Creek of several hundred acres, with old Windy Cove to fascinate the campers, and the rock quarry to explore where the rock came from a century ago for the L-shaped, two-story stone house, still standing, with four rooms upstairs and four down, with fireplaces. The students there at school once cut down trees in the creek bottoms for the cabins they built to live in. The site provides a summer vacation deluxe for campers, with its old mill where lumber was once sawed, the tryanosaur tracks, old log cabins and cemetery, forests and fields full of flints fashioned by the Indians long ago as weapons,—all the things are there that delight a child's heart, especially on summer days,—acorns, butterflies, bluebonnets, doves, deer, grasshoppers, niggerheads, owls, prairie parsley, rabbits, sage, tadpoles, turtles,—there are trees centuries old, that challenge a child to climb them, wild turkey, wild violets,—streams to wade, rocks to skip over the water, sunsets to see, cloudless skies, so summery and soothing,—among all these the children learn, as the children did at that school a century ago, of their Creator, of cooperation and competition, of conservation, and of our democratic way of life.

In the middle 1850's, there were still no public schools, and the question of providing them recurred. But the legislative

## *Development of Schools in Travis County*

problem was difficult, because the settlers were still too few and too far apart, and finances were a deterrent. Finally, during Governor Pease's term, legislation took form on January 31, 1854, to set up a system of schools in Texas. Two million dollars was set aside for the school fund, with interest to be allotted to counties on the ratio of number of pupils. The superintendent of schools for Texas was the state treasurer, and in each county, the judge and county commissioners constituted the school board; they named the different districts and held elections for three school trustees in each of those districts. To the trustees was left the local problem of a site for the school, the length of the school term, and financial arrangements to be made for the teachers.<sup>28</sup>

The Travis County court officials met at a called session on May 1, 1854 in line with the law. Chief Justice James B. Costa presided with the following present: Thomas F. McKinney, Nelson Merrill, S. M. Swenson as commissioners, and A. B. McGill, clerk. Travis County was formed into 19 school districts, with Austin being District No. 1 and included was all of the city proper and all outlots except those east of the following line: beginning at the north end of the line dividing lots 34 and 35 in Division C, then down the line dividing lots 48 and 49 in Division B, then on a straight line to the northwest end of the street dividing lots 44 and 45 in Division A, then along said street to the easternmost limit of the Austin city, with eastern boundary to the Colorado River.

In that same year, on November 20, 1854, this court authorized the state treasurer to pay the treasurer of Travis County, Edward Finnin, \$530.72 as the amount due from the special school fund to September, 1854.<sup>29</sup>

By the next year, 1855, on November 20, only \$62.00 was due Travis County. B. J. Smith's Austin Collegiate Female Institute was in its building on West Pecan Street.

It was springtime in 1856 when Amelia and Robert Barr came to Austin and stayed at the old Smith Hotel (formerly Bullock's) at Pecan and Congress; later they leased the McArthur two-story, frame house. In her book, *All the Days of My Life*, Amelia Barr tells of her husband working for five dollars per day for the State of Texas, with George Durham, whose wife and home on the road to the ferry seemed to be the social

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center then. In an article on Amelia Barr in the *Austin American* on February 26, 1933, Samuel E. Gideon, long loved architect of the city and at the University, told of her home and school here.

Amelia Barr had her first classes in the back room of the old Avenue Hotel at the southeast corner of Congress and Hickor and ex-Mayor Tom Miller's mother was among her students. Like Ben Thompson of later Austin, Amelia Barr was English, and she opened her school in her home near Third and Trinity Streets. Later, this house was moved to Seventh and East Avenue, and then to Ninth and Brushy Street, where it is now. This house originally was on the banks of the Colorado River in the block back of 100 East First Street, at the corner of Brazos and Willow Streets. But it is there for you to see today near the old French Embassy in this, its later location.

In advertisements of her Girls' School she listed her residence (and school) as opposite the City Hotel.<sup>30</sup> This school, too, closed with the Civil War, and it was known at various times as Ladies Seminary and Young Ladies High School. Her husband, Robert Barr, also owned a commercial night school at Cypress and San Jacinto Streets for bookkeeping courses.<sup>31</sup> About 1860, the Barrs initiated their policy of not registering state scholars, and in September, 1861, the commercial school became a day school.<sup>32</sup>

During the years of the fifties, up to the time of the Civil War, when most of the schools closed, there were many schools starting though some lasted only a short time:

Mrs. Kyle's Children's School, 1854-1858.

Mrs. Townsend's Children's School, 1854-1855.

Mrs. Frances Trask Thompson's School, which met in the Capitol building during 1854. She was now the widow of William R. Thompson, the hotel keeper she had met and married while teaching school in early Austin.

T. H. Beverage, San Rosa Institute, 1854-1855.

H. B. McKinney's Austin Male High School, 1854-1857.

Joseph Bledsoe's Austin Male Academy, 1854.

A. B. Smith and J. D. Thurman, Austin Male Seminary, 1855.

In 1856, B. J. Smith was teaching girl students at his Austin Collegiate Female Institute, and H. B. Kinney had boy students at his Austin Male High School.

Eli Kirk had an Infant School in Austin, 1856-61.

R. B. Burleson had the Female Institute, 1856-1857.



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William L. Kidd, Austin Select Male School, in the First Methodist Church, 1856-1857.

William M. Baker and J. H. Hutchins had a Male Seminary in 1857-1858, also in the basement of First Methodist Church.

A. J. Kraus, Primary School in the Swenson Building on the third floor.

R. A. Ezell attempted to start a high school in Austin, but soon decided to teach at Marshall instead.<sup>33</sup>

C. J. Menager did get a high school going in Austin for a while, in 1858.<sup>34</sup>

Dr. J. Collins opened a school for boys at the Alhambra Hotel in September, 1860.<sup>35</sup>

There were a few other small schools that started in Austin before the Civil War.

Another school law of August 11, 1856, directed that all school districts and trustees be abolished and that the state special and general funds be combined, with the interest from these funds to be allocated to each county according to the ratio of school children six to eighteen years old. The names of the schools were no longer common schools, but free public schools, with records to be filed with county courts. During these years, the money was used to pay tuition of children unable to pay, and the rest for those able to pay on a per capita basis. Travis County's allotment for the school year closing October 31, 1856 was \$1,698.78.<sup>36</sup> Over half of this amount was for children unable to pay tuition.

The *Texas State Times*, published during 1855-1856 by the American Party, under Colonel John S. Ford, commented on February 3, 1855, on the scarcity of schools in Travis County, and that settlers were being attracted to Seguin and San Antonio, where there were many schools. But the Reverend Gillette was trying to do something about that; he had nearly \$20,000 collected for the new St. Paul's College he planned to build here.<sup>37</sup>

Henry Burke Kinney, who had come to Austin in 1850, settled on a block of land between Pine and Pecan Streets, west of Austin; in 1853, he taught at his school in Bastrop, but came back here in 1868 and coached advanced Latin and Greek classes, and opened a school at the southeast corner of Pecan and Nueces Streets.<sup>38</sup> It was in the 1850's that he built his home at

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610 West Fifth; he was secretary to Governor Pease, and was the first superintendent of Austin schools. In 1869, Kinney, with Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Nugent, had a Male and Female School in the Baptist Church, then he located on West Sixth and Colorado Streets, the site of the Federal Building later.

During 1856, a school was being operated by Reverend Charles Gillette, Episcopal minister of St. David's Church. He used his home, at the northeast corner of 15th and San Jacinto Streets, the location of the present Checker Front Store, for a night school for lads who worked days and who wanted to study to be Episcopal ministers. His big, two-story concrete home became popular and soon day students were racing and running through the larger center hall and up and down the stairway in the hall. The school was chartered and called Wharton College in 1860, with Mrs. Gillette as assistant teacher. Reverend Gillette resigned from St. David's Church because of his variance with views of this congregation, but the school continued.<sup>39</sup>

The Commissioners Court records for this period show the following teachers being paid for children who paid or did not pay, according to the allotment: Charles Gillette, W. L. Kidd, H. B. Kinney, Eli Kirk, Elvira Rust, B. J. Smith.<sup>40</sup>

In 1857, the court records show some locations for teachers in the records of payments of school funds, as follows: J. A. Baker, Williamson Creek; William Edgar, Onion Creek; B. S. Fitzgerald, Walnut Creek; Laura Kidd, Webber's; Neill M. Kuthew, Webber's Prairie; A. J. Wolford, Bradford Bend; A. Yoe, Hornsby's Prairie; Ann E. Kyle, H. B. Kinney, B. J. Smith, W. L. Kidd, Elvira Rust, Eli Kirk, Austin; John A. Warrick, Webber's Prairie.

By September 1, 1858, Travis County received \$2,446.04 as its part of the state school funds. The rate was now set at ten cents daily for those unable to pay, and one and a half cents daily for those paying.<sup>41</sup>

The court records list the teachers in Travis County who received funds, but it was difficult to determine the locations of the schools in which they taught. Many were listed in Austin, but other locations in the county were not given. The democratic aspects of the arrangements for pay soon showed up; some of the private schools did not encourage the enrollment of poor children on state funds, while some schools accepted those who

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could pay and those who could not.

By 1857, the new Deaf and Dumb Asylum was being shown by Professor J. W. van Nostrand, south of the river, at the same site it has had for a century. Van Nostrand continued as superintendent until 1876, when John S. "Old Rip" Ford was elected and by 1880 Henry C. McCulloch was superintendent and had over sixty students.

By the late fifties, the Blind Institute, authorized on August 16, 1856, had been built and was to serve Austin for a century.<sup>42</sup> Provision of \$10,000 was made for the new school and the board of trustees included J. Caldwell, George Paschal, J. W. Phillips, R. J. Townes, S. M. Swenson, with Dr. S. W. Baker as superintendent. School started December 1, 1856, with one male student. Tuition was charged those who could pay. The school closed during the Civil War. Dr. Frank Rainey was superintendent for twenty-one years from 1874.

There were several schools in Austin then which lasted for years. Thomas Baker had his Austin Collegiate Female Institute, which had classes until 1873, in the basement of the Baptist Church. Baker, an eminent educator, was a former pupil of Longfellow when he taught English at Bowdoin College. His school lasted in Austin until his death in 1873. From 1857-1861 it was called Select School for Young Ladies.<sup>43</sup> This school had a "Pic Nic" in 1858.<sup>44</sup>

Another long lasting school was the German School, which started its own building on East Mulberry (10th) on the hill near Red River Street. On January 19, 1858, this school was incorporated as the German Free School Association of the City of Austin, and Julius Schutze was teacher. They build a school house and conducted the school, largest in attendance in Austin by 1861.<sup>45</sup> At the time of their incorporation, trustees were Dr. J. A. Brown, Joseph Martin, Charles Pressler, William Sattler, H. Steussy, William von Rosenberg, Charles Wilhelm.<sup>46</sup>

On February 5, 1858, the school law was amended so that the maximum tuition would be ten cents per day per pupil. This law also set up a board in each county to interview teachers. In Travis County the board was named on May 17, 1858, and consisted of Amos Morrill, Charles C. West, and George W. White.<sup>47</sup>

By September 1, 1859, only one cent per day was paid for students able to pay, and ten cents daily for those unable to



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pay. By the time the Civil War started, in 1860-1861, state funds were not available for those able to pay. According to county records, teachers qualifying for the state funds were, B. J. Smith, W. H. Roberts, A. W. Roberts, T. O. Clay, E. Hudson, Willis M. Holman, R. R. Taylor, J. L. Marshall, W. H. H. Carpenter, Eli Kirk, Thomas Baker, German Free School, Thomas Johnson, and J. H. Hutchins.<sup>48</sup> The Civil War ended the distribution of state school funds, but in November, 1862, Travis County took care of the children unable to pay during that year. In 1861, teachers included those above and Mrs. F. M. Foster and J. Schutze. In this year, 1861, a Law School was started by R. T. Wheeler and other lawyers, but did not last long.<sup>49</sup>

Several others operated schools in Austin during the war and the later sixties. Wharton College started on September 3, 1860, with 112 students,<sup>50</sup> and from 1861-1864, Mrs. Homan had the Southern Minerva Institute, and other schools of the early 1860's were: Thomas Baker's Select School for Young Ladies, W. G. Bell's Female Seminary, Dr. J. Collins' Male School, B. J. Smith's Austin Collegiate Female Institute, and Robert Barr's Boys' Commercial School. Parson's Female Seminary opened on December 14, 1863.

During the Civil War, many left, and no educational provisions were made as far as state funds were concerned, so no public school funds were available after 1861, and private schools were the only source of education.

After the war, the situation was the same as it had been in the early days of the Texas Republic and state, and no public schools were available in Travis County. The only new school building in Austin was built with funds from Northern groups for the Negroes. In 1866, the new constitution provided for education, but no action was taken. In the constitution of 1869, the reconstruction group provided for free public schools. No longer were county judges to serve as school superintendents. A superintendent of public instruction was authorized, and Pryor Lea was the first superintendent of schools in Texas and was succeeded by Edwin M. Wheelock in 1867. Following him were: Jacob C. de Gress, appointed by Governor Davis in 1871; O. N. Hollingsworth, in December, 1872; B. M. Baker, 1884; Oscar H. Cooper, 1887; H. C. Pritchett, 1890; J. M. Carlisle, 1891; J. S. Kendall, 1897; followed by Arthur LeFevre, and R. B.

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Cousins starting the 1900's.

Again, counties were divided into districts. The school fund, termed permanent, was set up again with money to be derived from the sale of public lands. The income from this permanent fund was to go into the available school fund. By November 29, 1870, Travis County, in line with the law, designated school districts as each beat in the county. Austin thus became Precinct No. 2.<sup>51</sup>

Because of the resentment against reconstruction rule, nothing was done in Travis County about public schools, so private schools were the only source of education then.

Teaching in Austin during the latter 1860's was the Reverend Taliaferro, who found his First Baptist Church in debt when he came back from the Civil War, and he and his wife taught school.

B. J. Smith, who had 127 students in 1858 in his Austin Collegiate Female Institute, established a quota of socks for soldiers that girl students must knit during the war years. Also, during those war years, Smith taught the daughters of soldiers free.<sup>52</sup>

Other schools surviving the Civil War were the German School and Thomas Baker's Select School for Young Ladies, which met in the Baptist Church building in 1861, and in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in 1864; in 1866, it moved back to the Baptist Church. Baker was at the Blind Institute during 1868-1869. In January, 1871, he had a school in the basement of the Christian Church.

The German School in 1867 was being conducted by William C. Otis in two large rooms, with gym and water cistern. Others were:

1861-1867, Mrs. F. M. Foster's Primary School.

1865-1868, George Browne, New School for Young Ladies.

1866-1868, Miss Clara Burnham, Primary School in the Christian Church.

1867, T. J. McVeigh, Seminary for Young Ladies, in First Baptist Church.

1867, C. M. Etheridge opened another Austin High School in the First Methodist Church.<sup>53</sup>

The Austin High School for Boys was mentioned in the *Texas State Gazette* of July 20, 1867.

There was a Republican School in Austin in 1867.<sup>54</sup>

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The Sisters of Divine Providence, who started Our Lady of the Lake College in San Antonio, were in Austin in 1866, and by 1868 were teaching at St. Mary's Parochial School under Father Nicholas Feltin.<sup>55</sup>

This school, St. Mary's Parochial School, is the oldest of its kind in continual existence in Austin. The church next to it was originally St. Patrick's, built by those Sheehans and O'Briens and Dolans and Bolands, etc., of early Austin, and the name was changed to St. Mary's in 1866. By 1872, the Sisters of Divine Providence who started the parish school in 1866, passed their exams required by the law in 1872 and were certified to continue teaching the seventy-two children there.<sup>56</sup> Their new school was finished in 1872.<sup>57</sup> In 1872, arrangements were made for the Sisters of the Holy Cross to come to Austin, and Mother Angela and Sister Raymond came to make further plans. By April, 1874, they opened a boarding and day school in two rooms at Brazos and North Streets, and Mother Angela and Sister Bernard were teachers. Eighty students registered that first year. In another year, 1875, their new building was constructed. More teachers arrived, —Sister Rose Crowely, Sister Boniface, Sister Rose, Sister Cyrilla, Sister Mildred. But it was not lush living for them. There were no electric lights, no running water, no gas, and a cistern served them with water. Their building had a downstairs room for the school and an attic room for their quarters; an old stable nearby served for kitchen and dining room. The school building was called the "Ark," because it was always raining in. Those first days were difficult ones; finances were a problem, and the Sisters made needlework in their spare time, which they sold to citizens of Austin. Mother Angela, as she alternated with the other Sisters in cooking and such chores, said, "We do not know how to say the *Te Deum* until we have passed many days bowed to the earth reciting the *Miserere*."<sup>58</sup>

On November 2, 1882, the Sisters of the Holy Cross bought the site of the home of Mirabeau B. Lamar, when he was president of the Republic of Texas, for \$7,000, giving notes for an additional \$10,000. This location had been the property of the Republic of Texas, then of Captain Joseph Daniels, Governor Petter Bell, and in 1857 belonged to F. T. Duffau, whose widow, Mrs. Mary Duffau, sold it to the Sisters. In 1885, their four-story school building, costing \$60,000, was completed and opened.



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The Sisters had the first mass in their chapel on November 21, 1885. Then, the girls from the parish school next to St. Mary's Church transferred to the new St. Mary's Academy, and the parish school at San Jacinto and Ash Streets became a boys' school taught by the Brothers of the Holy Cross until about 1910. St. Mary's Academy was incorporated in 1886 by Sisters M. Florentine, M. Loyola, and M. Pauline.<sup>59</sup>

Not many are alive today who knew those first teachers at the two schools, but there are families in Austin who have third and fourth generation children at the same schools their parents **and** grandparents attended. St. Mary's Academy is at Red River and Fortieth Street, and their old site, long a landmark at that corner of Brazos, San Jacinto, Seventh and Eighth Streets, and the site of Texas' White House, is a parking lot now.

Austin had an arithmetic school in 1868, started by Robert O. Barrett. From 1860 to 1870, Swancoats Boys and Girls Schol was in Austin.

Professor T. J. McVeigh opened a Female Institute in February 1867, and his wife taught there, too. In 1868, he expanded his school to a Male and Female School, to include a night school, with charges being three dollars monthly for primary grades, four dollars for preparatory, and five dollars for college courses. His school in 1868 was on the square northwest of the Governor's Mansion. In 1868, S. G. Sneed was associated with this school.

Down at the site of the foundry at Waller Creek, the Negroes started their own school and were building a new school. A colored school was started by the Freedmen's Bureau and was operating in their new school before 1870. The Black School House was built around 1869. In 1868, H. B. Kinney had a school on the southeast corner of Pecan and Nueces Streets, and was teaching boys and girls advanced courses like Greek and Latin. T. L. Nugent and H. B. Kinney had a Male and Female School in 1869 and night school later.

Another school, the Austin Normal School, was opened by Sebron Graham Sneed on September 10, 1869. He had come with his family to Texas from Arkansas in the fall of 1848, attended school in Austin, Bastrop, Galveston, and Rome. He returned to Austin and married Miss Fannie Finnin in 1860, and practiced law, both before and after his service with the Travis

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Rifles in the Texas Infantry during the war until 1869, when he opened his school. As did most of the educators of that era, he conducted his school in his home, which was then at Colorado and Cypress Streets, and he only took ten students; these had regular drills as befitted a military school. That first class of 1869 included John Black, Frank Duffau, Walter Durham, Edwin Hancock, James Raymond, Austin Robinson, Joe Walker, Early Walton, Newton Walton, and Stark Washington. Since his school was set up so that the students went on to the University of Virginia each year, there were vacancies and by the second term, he was able to accommodate eighteen students. Thus, they were able to have two teams and compete in baseball games. The following boys were registered during the second term of 1870-1871: Will Davis, Tom Green, Eugene Haynie, L. Magill, G. Lane, James Lane, Charles Walsh, Tom Washington. This school continued until its close in June, 1874, when Sneed married Alice Bacon (his first wife had died in 1867). Sneed served the city as chairman of the Democratic Party, and was superintendent of the county schools when he died in 1893.

During the same year, 1869, H. B. Kinney included Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Nugent in the staff of his Male and Female School which was set up at the northeast corner of Colorado and Pecan Streets, then the Baptist Church.

Among the new schools, one of Austin's finest began here in 1870, the Texas Military Institute, out on the West 12th Street hill at 1111 West 11, modeled after Virginia Military Institute and West Point, with its main building, lecture rooms, professors' residences, hospital, mess hall, and barracks. The old Institute still stands, as it was built on the thirty-acre tract bought from James H. Raymond and located south of the grounds of General Shelley.<sup>60</sup> This school originally came from Bastrop, where it was started in 1868, and in Austin it reputedly became Texas' first military academy.<sup>61</sup>

Colonel John Garland James was commander of the cadets until 1876, when he went to A. & M. College, which was opening then.

Local lads who learned their lessons there were:

William Alley, 1874  
Reuben Anderson, 1873  
Thomas C. Anderson, 1875  
John Black, 1876

T. N. Blake, 1873  
John H. Blocker, 1870  
Jack Baker, 1872  
H. D. Barnhart, 1875

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- John T. Bennett, 1873-78  
W. F. Bennett, 1875  
Henry Browne, 1870  
J. J. Brunet, 1876  
George A. Brush, 1871  
E. W. Budington, 1874  
C. M. Buntun, 1874  
James Burdett, 1870  
Chipley Burlage, 1870  
Joseph Burlage, 1870  
Horace Burnham, 1870  
A. B. Campbell, 1875  
Frank E. Campbell, 1874  
Guy Carlton, 1878  
Will H. Carr, 1875  
C. H. Carrington, 1870  
T. D. Carrington, 1870  
W. D. Carrington, 1870  
D. G. Chalmers, 1875  
T. G. Chalmers, 1875  
F. F. Chote, 1871  
F. F. Chote, 1871  
Charles B. Cook, 1870  
E. T. Cook, 1870  
J. E. Cummings, 1873  
Waters Davis, 1877  
J. J. Haynes, 1870  
Brooks Haynie, 1876-78  
Eugene G. Haynie, 1870  
Jacob Philip Henricks, 1876-78  
Walter Bremond, 1877  
H. C. Brown, 1874  
Jeff D. Brown, 1874  
George S. Browne, 1875  
Samuel D. de Cordova, 1878  
E. T. de Normandie, 1871  
Frank Duffau, 1874  
James Durst, 1870  
John T. Duval, 1877  
Charles H. Earnest, 1871-77  
Joseph S. Earnest, 1870  
Orceaneth Fisher, 1874  
Wilbur Gage, 1874  
B. P. Gaines, 1874  
Arthour Crozier Giraud, 1877-78  
Oscar E. L. P. Goldmann, 1877-78  
J. W. Graham, 1870  
James H. Grant, 1872  
R. J. Grant, 1876  
J. N. Green, 1870  
Thomas Green, 1870  
Martin C. Groos, 1874-78  
D. W. Hamilton, 1870  
W. G. Hamilton, 1870  
Lewis Hancock, 1870-74  
Harvey Harrell, 1875  
H. M. Haynes, 1870  
John R. Lawrence, 1877-78  
Joseph Lee, 1874  
S. M. Lee, 1870  
Henry A. Linn, 1875-78  
W. D. Hill, 1872  
J. N. Hoffar, 1874  
Sam Hopkins, 1877-78  
W. D. Hopkins, 1871  
Louis Horst, 1875-78  
W. H. Hotchkiss, 1870  
M. H. Howard, 1872  
Ben F. Johnston, 1871  
A. S. Johnston, 1874  
David Galen Jones, 1876-78  
Richard Swearington Kirby, 1874-78  
Robert Harper Kirby, 1876-78  
C. B. Kirkpatrick, 1875  
Louis Henry Kreisle, 1876-78  
Camillo Albert Kuechler, 1874-78  
Ralph Jacob Kuechler, 1874-78  
James Lane, 1873  
Claude Herbert Lauraine, 1876-78  
William Cashier Lauraine, 1876-78  
F. H. Sanders, 1870  
A. G. Scogin, 1872  
Fritz Schenck, 1877-78  
J. D. Sheeks, 1870  
W. D. Shelley, 1871  
C. B. Shepard, 1873  
J. W. Shepard, 1875  
James L. Shepherd, 1875-78  
E. W. Shands, 1874  
W. A. Shands, 1874  
A. Smith, 1874  
Edgar Smith, 1876-78  
J. E. Linn, 1873  
Edward McDannell, 1874-75  
J. B. McGill, 1873  
D. Melasky, 1870  
William Metz, 1875  
J. A. Milliken, 1870  
W. Miller, 1876  
Thomas J. Neavitt, 1876-78  
L. M. Odom, 1873  
S. M. Platt, 1870  
A. A. Porter, 1870  
G. B. Porter, 1872  
J. P. Randolph, 1871  
Ernest W. Robbins, 1876-78  
W. Robertson, 1870  
Eugene Robinson, 1877-78  
C. A. Rosengreen, 1870  
Arthur Rowe, 1870  
Horace Rowe, 1870  
Washington A. Taliaferro, 1878  
Richard M. Tarleton, 1877-78  
A. J. Terrell, 1873  
E. D. Thomas, 1873  
A. R. Townes, 1874  
T. W. Tullis, 1872  
F. T. Turner, 1870  
W. von Rosenberg, 1873  
John Wahrenberger, 1871



## *History of Travis County*

W. S. Walker, 1871	Frederick G. Sutor, 1877-78
C. D. Walsh, 1870	S. Washington, 1870
George L. Walton, 1877-78	P. Weir, 1870
J. H. Smyth, 1873	Duval West, 1876-78
R. P. Smyth, 1873-77	Robert Green West, 1875-78
P. H. Stern, 1875	C. R. Wheelock, 1870-74
H. H. Steiner, 1873	H. B. Wilson, 1874
J. S. Stewart, 1872	William S. Wilson, 1878
R. T. Stringer, 1869	William Ziller, 1875-78

O. M. Roberts talked to the students at their closing on June 11, 1878, the last class of the school, and most of the faculty went on to A. & M. College. It was later used for the Texas German and English Academy of Jacob Bickler. Today, the turret entrance still greets you with its six sides, and the picture shows the building as it looked about twenty years ago.

In 1870, the Oak Grove Seminary was being conducted by William Smyth. During these years, while the Travis County court records show the school funds given certain teachers and schools, locations in the county were not listed.

The seventies saw more schools in Austin and Travis County, and changes in schools already operating. The Austin Female Institute, which included boys among its students during the war years, went back to their all-girl enrollment during the post-war period, under B. J. Smith, his wife, and his daughter, Naomi. Another educator, Z. T. Fulmore, for whom an Austin school is named, moved to Austin about 1870.

Jacob C. DeGress was appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction by Governor E. J. Davis, and resentment arose because of his lack of educational experience. But regardless of the resentment, the first public free schools were started in the state in September, 1871.

The school law of 1871 authorized a state board of education, to be composed of the governor, attorney general, and state superintendent of public instruction. The latter was in control of everything regarding the schools, teachers, textbooks, school sites, and salaries. Texas had a district supervisor named for each of the 35 districts which were authorized. Each county was to be divided into districts, with a group of directors for each district. Taxes of one per cent were scheduled to cover costs of schools, and education for those between six and eighteen years was made mandatory for at least four months annually.<sup>62</sup> Travis County was termed District 27 of Texas, and

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directors of the county schools were D. W. C. Baker, H. B. Kinney, L. E. Kellner, Eldridge Perry, and Jacob Rainey, with John Shafter, supervisor.<sup>63</sup> H. B. Kinney was named as principal of Austin Public Schools.<sup>64</sup>

Kinney started his school that year on West Pecan Street, between Nueces and San Antonio Streets, in a stone building, and taught a coeducational crowd for about five years, when he became postmaster for twelve years.

This was the year when public schools were started in rented buildings, under the law of 1871. A stone building at Guadalupe and Mesquite Streets served as the public school for about fifty girls, with Mrs. R. V. Kimball and Miss Augusta Palm as teachers. This school was in the old stone building northwest of the Governor's Mansion. The seventy boys went to school in the basement of the Christian Church, with William Smyth as teacher. For a short time, the German School became a public school, with Philip Bickler and Miss Clara Burnham teaching about one hundred students. The Negroes had 137 students in their school.<sup>65</sup> And there was a Doshee Business College in Austin, also.

By December, 1871, William C. Crane and S. G. Sneed were instrumental in starting the Texas State Teachers Association, which became the Austin Teachers Association in 1879, but by June, 1880, it was again the Texas group, which has lasted until today.

It was also in 1872 that another longtime school started in Austin, St. Edward's Academy. On April 6, 1872, Father E. Sorin was in Austin from Notre Dame, visiting the one Catholic Church (now St. Mary's Cathedral); at that time, he was persuaded to buy 123.78 acres of land south of Austin for a college, and Mrs. Mary Doyle donated 398 acres for this educational project. Out of this grew St. Edward's University of today, the site for which was selected by Father Sorin under an oak tree with a view of the capital city. The academy had three pupils in 1878, nine in 1879, and their boarding school in 1881 had as its first boarder Harry McCarthy. By 1885, they were a chartered school, with sixty students, and by 1888 were starting a new building on the site of what was called the Catholic Farm in those early days.

By 1873, the radical Republicans, as they were termed,

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were no longer in the majority in the Texas Legislature and a new school law was enacted, by which schools were to be under the supervision of county school districts with local elections determining the directors. Under the law of 1873, teachers were given written exams for certificates to teach, and each county was to receive school funds by the per capita of school children. A school tax was authorized to make up any deficit in the amount of 25 per 100.

In line with the new law, Travis County trustees met on September 20, 1873.<sup>66</sup> S. G. Sneed was in charge of exams for teachers in Travis County. By 1875, he reported no public schools had been started in Austin because of lack of funds, but that nine schools were constructed in the county. Travis County had six school districts with Austin being Number 6, and he reported funds would be accumulated and available for schools by September, 1875.

By 1873, the colored school had its own building.<sup>67</sup> In 1874, George Stolley, a teacher at the German-American School, started a school, naming it Stolley's Select Academy. And at the Brueggerhoff Building at the southeast corner of Tenth and Congress (in 1960, the site of the Marie Antoinette store) boys who wanted to play hookey from Jones' Commercial College or F. T. Roche's school in the building, could wander through the wax museum upstairs.

On Walnut Street, between Colorado and Lavaca Streets, the German-American Ladies' College was conducting classes, after moving to Austin from New Braunfels.

William W. Fontaine organized the Texas Female Institute in 1875, conducting his classes in the basement of the Baptist Church, but by 1876, he had a new building for his school, which lasted until about 1881.

Professor and Mrs. R. L. Hood had a school in Austin from 1875 to 1881.

The catalog of the Austin Collegiate Female Institute of 1875, tells about the school of B. J. Smith. Trustees were Dr. J. W. Burt, A. H. Cook, Sr., Major Galen Crow, Dr. R. E. Grant, Reverend J. S. Grasty, James P. McKinney, and Alfred Smith. Teachers were B. J. Smith and his wife, Dr. J. W. Burt, Mrs. L. A. Perry, Mrs. A. L. Warren, Mrs. Kate Wingfield. Students came from Bastrop, Burnet, Columbus, Gonzales, Lampasas,



## *Development of Schools in Travis County*

Llano, McDade and Manor. Tuition was \$130.00 for a session and included "board, lights, fuel, washing, and tuition."<sup>68</sup>

The Red Seminary was started in 1875, opening in January, 1876, by Dr. George Clark Red and his wife, Mrs. Rebecca Stuart Red. They had moved to Austin for his health, and had built the seminary for \$10,000; and the building is used today for Guadalupe School near the State Cemetery. It was called Stuart Seminary, and she was superintendent until she died in 1886. Miss Lel Red was principal of the seminary from 1886 to 1889, when she married Reverend J. M. Purcell, who became principal. The school ended about the close of the century, and the Austin Theological Seminary was started at the site. A son of the starters of this seminary, Samuel Clark Red, was one of the first graduates of the University in 1885.

In the *Daily Democratic Statesman* of May 16, 1875, there was comment on the site of the first school in Austin, Lots 3 and 4 in block 110, across from the newspaper office, selling for \$6,000 cash.

Austin's first public school, built and supported partially with funds designated for that purpose, was constructed, with approval of the City Council, at the site set aside on the original map of Austin as university block, west of the capitol, on a block south of College Avenue and west of Rio Grande Street.<sup>69</sup> By 1876, it was ready for enrollments at the location of the present Pease School. The building, under the supervision of S. G. Sneed, C. R. Johns, and Joseph Harrell, cost \$18,000, and was sixty by eighty feet, of native stone, and had eight rooms.<sup>70</sup> It was a modern building, with steam heat and running water.<sup>71</sup> This first public school in Austin was dedicated on October 28, 1876, it was later West Austin School and Pease School in 1902. Pupils in the first grade paid \$1.50 monthly; second grade, \$2.00; third grade, \$2.50; fourth grade, \$3.00, which was about half of what some of the private schools charged. These tuition fees helped subsidize the teachers' salaries. About 300 pupils were soon registered for classes in the new building, which could accommodate 500.

The *Weekly Democratic Statesman* of August 10, 1876, noted that the Austin High School would not be a free school, and commented that the building would be rent free from the city, but that the teachers would be paid from tuition of the pupils.

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Many of the private schools in Austin then were long lasting and best known of these were S. G. Sneed's Austin Norman School, B. J. Smith's Austin Collegiate Female Institute (which completed its twenty-fifth year in 1876), and one of the buildings which served as part of his set-up for a home and school still stands, the rock house on the northwest corner of Rio Grande and West 6th Streets); J. G. James' Texas Military Institute, T. J. McVeigh's Select School for Boys, Philip Bickler's German-American School, Sisters of the Holy Cross St. Mary's Academy, St. Mary's Parish Boys' School under Father Daniel Spillard, and W. W. Fontaine's Texas Female Institute.

Another school was started on September 4, 1876, at the corner of Walnut and Rio Grande Streets, by Mrs. Helen M. Kirby.<sup>72</sup> In 1876, also, the families in the present University neighborhood started a school called College Hill, in the Methodist Church; reputedly the northern Methodists who had their church about where "St. Peter's Gate" is, in the northwestern drive into the grounds. This was called Harney's sometimes, derived from the General Harney who owned this land, after buying it from Lamar.

It was 1876 before the constitution was adopted providing for schools. Laws were passed which permitted any incorporated city to control the public schools in its limits if a two-thirds majority voted thus at a special election called by the mayor. The city council controlled the schools, their establishment and maintenance, and the collection of local taxes for that purpose.

The constitution of 1876 changed the school system by non-requirement of mandatory schooling and ended the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Eight through fourteen years were designated as school age and school areas could organize and operate under law. Also, any teacher who operated a private school and was granted a certificate by the county judge, could register the school as a community school and thus be eligible for State funds. About fifty such schools started in the Austin area in the 1870's. After 1876, schools operated as community schools, district schools, incorporated districts, and incorporated city schools. Under community plan no provision was made for the collection of local taxes, and state funds were used for buildings, etc. From 1876-1883, all county schools op-

## *Development of Schools in Travis County*

erated under this plan, but by 1883, the consttiution provided for the organization of school districts.

The Austin Graded School which opened in 1876 in that new building was granted a charter as an association with D. C. Baker as president, and directors Joseph Harrell, C. R. Johns, R. W. Lowry, B. Melasky, J. H. Robinson, N. G. Shelley, S. G. Sneed, C. S. West and Dr. Thomas D. Wooten. This association was organized to establish graded schools in Austin. Tuition was charged and salaries were usually unavailable for the teachers, who were paid from \$70.00 for the first grade on up. Tuition was \$1.50 monthly for first graders, \$2.00 for second graders, etc. By 1877, grades two through five were taught. But tuition was not profitable, because the law permitted community schools to receive school funds. The Catholic schools were not allotted funds. The law also provided teachers of private schools with certificates from the county judge to list the students of their schools as a community school.

In June, 1880 there was an advertisement in the paper for male teachers for the four grades at the Austin Graded School, at a salary of \$75.00 monthly.<sup>73</sup>

Tillotson's Normal College Institute was chartered in 1877 by the American Missionary Association of the Congregational Church of New York, and their land, eight acres, was purchased for \$5,000.<sup>74</sup> By 1881, the school had 250 students, and in September, 1951, it merged with the Samuel Huston College to become one of the South's noted colleges.

In 1877, Professor Jacob Bickler, who had taught at the German-American School, just off Red River Street on East 9th Street, was at his Texas German-English Academy on Walnut Street between Lavaca and Colorado Streets. He operated this Academy for about ten years. This eminent educator of Austin not only taught his lads their lessons, but also a love for this land of ours. While the community schools were known by numbers, Bickler's school was Number 4.<sup>75</sup>

On July 5, 1877, the County Court of Travis County declared that the money left in the building fund of district No. 6 be used for two new buildings to be public free schools for colored children. Thus, one was built in East Austin, on Robertson Hill, and one in Wheatville, which was west of San Gabriel Street, between Maple and Orange Streets; so the Negroes had



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as many community schools in Austin as the whites. By 1879, the laws were amended and schools were directed by a board of trustees. Also during 1877, the Texas Female Institute of W. W. Fontaine had a new building on 19th Street between Rio Grande and San Gabriel Streets, which was used until about 1886.

When that first capitol built for the State of Texas burned at noon on November 9, 1881, it may have become just a history lesson to lads of today, but to the boys who went to the B. J. Smith School, on West Pecan Street, about where the Alamo Hotel now is, it was a lesson they have not forgotten in the years that have gone. Mr. Smith saw to that.

The capitol burned about noontime; the bigger boys knew better than to leave the school grounds, so they sent the smaller ones up the hill to see what was happening. The little boys came back, all important with news, excitement was everywhere, the capitol was afire, horse-drawn fire trucks were rushing there.

But it wasn't just the capitol. Schoolmaster Smith was smouldering, too. He rang his school bell, and big and little scholars lined up and filed in. Smith locked the door, put the key in his pocket, and gave a licking to each little boy who had left the school grounds during the noon recess. When Emmett Carrington told this story, you knew the burning of the capitol was not just a history lesson to him.

On the same day that construction started on the new capitol, ther was a wedding going on out at the Sebron Sneed home at 1800 Congress; his daughter was marrying an Austin photographer, N. M. Wilcox. Sned's granddaughter, Miss Fannie Wilcox, was a long time librarian at the State Library.

During this year, B. J. Smith and his wife, both eminent educators, died. His school was at the northwest corner of Guadalupe and Pecan Streets for a long time as a school for boys, and the girls' school was west of there near Rio Grande and Pecan Streets. Their daughter, Naomi, continued the school for girls until about 1888.

By September, 1879, in a new building at Guadalupe and North Streets the Alta Vista Institute was starting. In 1879-1880, there wer twelve private schools in Austin, with about 400 students and five free schools for about 250 colored children.<sup>76</sup>

## *Development of Schools in Travis County*

In 1880, A. P. Woolridge and the *Democratic Statesman* initiated a movement to get the public schools organized under the City of Austin. On August 16, 1880, at a special election, public free schools within Austin's city limits came under the direction of the city, to end the era when the county and private schools charged tuition. Six trustees were elected: R. F. Campbell, R. C. Ludlow, John B. Rector, H. C. Stell, William von Rosenberg, with A. P. Wooldridge as president of the board. A tax of one-fourth of one per cent of the city's assessed property for school funds was approved, and the Austin Public Schools started on September 12, 1881.<sup>77</sup> John B. Winn was superintendent of schools; there was a faculty of twenty-seven for the twelve-year course planned.

In that year of 1881, Austin had other outstanding schools, —St. Edward's Academy, St. Mary's Academy, Hood Seminary, Tillotson Institute, and Bickler's German-English Academy. North Austin School, called Sixth Ward School, became Wooldridge School in 1881, and had a new building in 1886.

And business schools started in the eighties,—the Capitol Business College in 1884, the Texas Business College in 1888, and Griffith's Business College in 1895. The Capitol Business College was on the third floor of the Brueggerhoff Building, and M. C. Nixon of the later Nixon-Clay College, was with this school in 1883-84.

The eighties were the educational era for Austin, with twenty-six public schools in Austin in 1882. By 1894, Austin owned fifteen buildings for its public schools and ten other buildings were rented. The University was to become a reality, and other schools were starting, such as Bickler being built in 1883. R. K. Smoot, pastor of the Southern Presbyterian Church, began the Austin School of Theology with one student in 1882; R. L. Dabney joined him in 1884, and a building was begun for this college, which lasted until about 1895.

Many men who worked to establish Austin schools during this time, later had schools here named for them, as did Z. T. Fulmore and A. P. Wooldridge, who practiced law together. In 1882, the public schools of Austin had a picnic at Pease Place. By this time, there was a high school with sixty-six students, under Professor C. A. Burchard and Miss Aurelia Brown. The grammar grades had about 190 students, and were supervised

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by Misses Octavia Clifton, M. V. Jones, J. A. McCormick, Fannie Pfaefflin, Theresa Ziller, and Mrs. M. F. Smith. The primary students were supervised by Misses Cora Arthur, Ada Zavala, L. B. Howard, Lula Linn, F. E. Miller, Katherine McLean, Willie R. Smith, Mary L. Sloss, Pattie Townes, and J. Maloney. There were over twenty-five schools in Austin, and in a ceremony for graduates that spring, Governor O. M. Roberts addressed the graduates, and medals were awarded to Lillian Proctor, for the primary grades; Athol Estes, grammar school; and Jessie Andrews, high school.<sup>78</sup>

St. Edward's College as an addition to the Academy, was started in 1881, at the site of the "Catholic Farm," with three boys, at a building about a mile from the present site. Reverend John Lauth was the first president, and it was chartered as a college in Texas in 1885; a new building was started then, which was finished in May, 1889, and burned on April 9, 1903. On May 4, 1922, a tornado destroyed St. Edward's and it was again rebuilt. On March 10, 1925, it was chartered as St. Edward's University.<sup>79</sup>

In 1881, Austin had thirty teachers and John B. Winn was superintendent of schools.<sup>80</sup> By 1882, there were twenty-five public schools in Austin, with an enrollment of 1,250.<sup>81</sup> In 1882, Z. T. Fulmore, ex-officio chairman of the county school board, noted that there were ninety school communities in Travis County. According to certificates filed by the first of August for those desiring to participate in the public school fund, there were 3,217 county school children in 1881 (outside of Austin) and 3,497 in 1882; school funds were allotted at the rate of \$3.45 per capita.<sup>82</sup>

By 1883, Austin had twenty white schools and six colored, all public schools, taught by twenty-six teachers for the 1,376 students. There was a new frame building of eight rooms where Bickler is today, and schools were started where Fulmore, Palm, and Wooldridge (Sixth Ward School) are located in 1960. Fulmore was located a block north of the present location. Miss Mollie Dawson was principal from 1892-97 and Charles Newning who donated the land, named the school in 1902 for his old friend, Judge Z. T. Fulmore.

The colored schools were at Robertson Hill, Wheatville, Masontown, and at the Southern Methodist Church. How many Austinites know where Robertson Hill and Wheatville were?



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By 1884, under law, the county commissioners' courts were dividing their counties into numbered school districts, with elections to be held in each district, and taxes to be levied.

In the early 1880's, Professor Bickler's school was constructed near Lavaca Street, on West Walnut Street, and about a block northeast of his school was a German colony, whose interesting houses still stand.

When the Austin schools closed in 1884, George Shelley recited, as did Sadie Clark, at the commencement exercises. It was during 1884 that the legislature enacted a law providing again for establishment and support of public free schools; this law was amended and improved in 1893.

In 1885, A. P. Wooldridge was president of the school board with members Z. T. Fulmore, J. M. Litten, John B. Rector, Walter Tips, and Mayor J. W. Robertson.

In 1885, St. Mary's Academy was being built of local limestone, with this new building containing thirty rooms, up on Duffau's hill, to be ready for classes by March 1, 1885.<sup>83</sup>

In 1886, Wooldridge School, which had Miss Gertrude Whitis as a teacher later, was started, and the American Kindergarten was being conducted by Mrs. George V. Donnan at 500 West Peach Street. The Teachers' Association had their convention in Austin on July 1, 1886.<sup>84</sup>

Another educator, H. B. Kinney, was an alderman and civic citizen then, and is credited with the compilation of Austin's city charter; he and DeWitt C. Baker, Superintendent de Gress, and A. P. Wooldridge, helped to start the public school system here. Another, a Scotsman, John T. Allan, who had lived in Austin since 1849, also helped with education here, and he died in 1888. Funds provided by him founded the industrial school which was started in 1896 at the old Austin High School, which became Allan Junior High School. In 1888, there were 120 high school students and 2,670 students in the Austin Public Schools. From 1888-1900 central grammar school and Austin High classes were held in the capitol building at the southwest corner of 11th and Congress.

The Tenth Ward school was at the old arsenal site, just a small frame building in 1887-88, with Miss Florence Brooke as principal, until March 5, 1888, when Congress transferred the land to the city schools, to be used for education, instead of arms

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and the army.<sup>85</sup> This arsenal block dates back to the days of the Republic of Texas here, and in 1888 it was transferred to the city schools, but to revert to the United States Government if ever it was not used for educational purposes. In 1892, the present building for Palm School was built, with eight rooms. For seventy-five years it has been the school named for an early settler, Sir Swante Palm, with palm trees planted there, in keeping with the name. The names of many Austin residents of today can still be read on the class registers of long ago: Tom Miller, Oscar, Henry, Meta, Wally and Rose Kunz.

In 1887, the state paid \$10,000 for the site of the colored Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum, buying it from Dr. Phillips,<sup>86</sup> who had a race track there in earlier days. The colored Methodists bought five acres on the corner of College and East Avenues, to build a three-story school, costing around \$10,000.

By 1887, the office of county superintendent of schools was established. There were more students in the Austin Public Schools by 1888, and at the commencement exercises, Daniel Penick recited, Rosa Hirshfeld was salutatorian, and Athol Estes had a part in the ceremonies.<sup>87</sup> Graduates in 1888 were Victor E. Brook, William Brueggerhoff, Cabell M. Chadwick, Mamie Stone Chadwick, Annie Zerah Doom, Etta May Eston, Meade Goodloe, Whitfield Harral, Maclovvia Hill, Lizzie Hunter, Maggie E. McInnis, Sidney M. Posey, Lizzie S. Ramsey, Emma Roenbeck, Clemmie Scott, Mary Taylor Smith, Katie Pierce Walker, and Joanne Wolf. Was that Daniel Penick the Dr. Penick who went on to the University of Texas to get his B. A. and M. A., and later his doctor's degrees, and to become synonymous with tennis at Texas University?

In 1888, the Austin Home Institute was started by Mrs. Willie Andrews on East 12th Street, and the school lasted until her death in 1895. Mrs. Andrews was the operator of the old Science Hall at Goforth from 1870 until coming to Austin. Many Austinites attended Science Hall at Goforth, an interesting ghost town near Austin.

During 1888, a week was set aside in Austin for the dedication of the capitol and on Thursday, May 17, an educational reunion was held under the sponsorship of the superintendent of public instruction, Oscar Cooper, and the University regents.

In 1889, Austin schools had 4,004 pupils.<sup>88</sup> By 1890, the

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public schools had fifty-eight teachers, 2,710 students, and there were 4,035 pupils in Austin.<sup>89</sup> In 1891, the public schools were spending \$700 on new furniture.<sup>90</sup> Also, in 1891, laws were passed concerning textbooks for Texas schools, but it was 1918 before free textbooks became a reality. In 1892, a school was built at 39th and Speedway, and Palm School was built. By 1891, the colored school in the Clarksville area was meeting in the Sweet Home Church and built a school in 1896.

The Austin School Board and the local water company agreed on the installation of a water meter for the schools, with water to cost two cents for a forty-gallon barrel.<sup>91</sup> Also, in 1893, the Board was meeting to consider plans for that new building at East Avenue and East 11th Street that became Bickler School.<sup>92</sup> This school was built in 1894, and John B. Winn resigned as Superintendent of Schools, with T. G. Harris replacing him. But the school term was shortened in 1894 after a seven-month term, because funds were depleted after the construction of the Tenth Ward School (Palm) and the East Austin School (Bickler).<sup>93</sup> The Austin Public Schools had fifteen buildings and were leasing ten.

In 1894, Austin High School was in the temporary capitol building at 11th and Congress, and when it burned, in 1899, school was conducted in the Smith Opera House in the 100 block of West 6th Street, and then at 9th and Trinity Streets, in the school that became John T. Allan High School.

By 1895, the Capitol Business College of L. R. Walden became Walden's Texas Business College, and Griffith's Business College was started.

From 1895 on past the end of the century, James E. Pearce was principal of Austin High School, and an industrial school for Austin was being advocated, possibly as a part of the YMCA, using the Allan Industrial Fund.<sup>94</sup> When John T. Allan died in 1888, his estate provided for the first manual training department in the schools of Texas, which started in Austin in 1896.

On May 28, 1896, the West Austin Graded School burned, and the firebug who burned Austin's first school was Harris Fisher, according to the *Austin Statesman* of May 30, 1896.

When schools in Austin opened on September 18, 1898, high school classes were being held in the temporary capitol. Other schools were as follows:



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- East Austin School (presently Bickler School)
- West Austin School (northwest corner of 11th and Rio Grande Streets)
- Arsenal Block School (presently Palm School)
- North Austin School (northwest corner of Nueces and West 24th, presently Wooldridge School), originally called Sixth Ward School and named for A. P. Wooldridge in 1902
- Hyde Park School (east side of Congress Avenue between Pitts Avenue and 2nd Streets in Hyde Park)
- South Austin School (northwest corner of Brackenridge and East Mary Streets)
- First Ward School (Nueces and West 2nd Streets)<sup>95</sup>

In 1898, at 208 East 4th, Mrs. Lillie Erwin was opening her school for typewriting and telegraphy.<sup>96</sup>

During 1898, there was a bill passed by the Legislature to permit the city to use the block of ground on East 11th (or 10th) to build a high school.<sup>97</sup> By fall, this new school building was started between Ninth and Tenth Streets, and Trinity and Neches.<sup>98</sup>

In 1899, the Stuart Seminary was being combined into the Presbyterian Theological Seminary.<sup>99</sup>

In this year, the citizens voted bonds of \$50,000 to finance Allan High School, for which the cornerstone was laid on August 20, 1899. Austin High School classes were held in the original Allan High School, and in 1916, Stephen F. Austin High School was built and the two schools switched sites in 1925, with Allan becoming a junior high school and Stephen F. Austin, a high school.

Other changes have taken place in those original Austin schools. The old Robertson Hill School in East Austin from 1884 to 1909 at East 11th and San Marcos became Anderson High School, and was moved later to Olive and Curve Streets. The Baker Junior High School, at 3900 Avenue B in 1960, was called Hyde Park School, Oak Hill School, etc. from 1891-1894, and had a building at 39th and Speedway in 1892. Originally, Oak Hill School was on Guadalupe Street below the present Austin State Hospital, in 1891. These schools became Baker School in 1902, named for DeWitt C. Baker, an eminent educator in Austin.

The early 1900's saw A. N. McCallum coming to Austin

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from Seguin to be superintendent of the Austin Schools for nearly forty years, and the era that initiated such phases of education as kindergartens and evening schools.

In 1926 Austin had 57 public school buildings, and was the site of the University of Texas, St. Edwards University, Concordia College, Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest, the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and 15 grade schools, and 5 high schools, parochial and private.

The county schools in 1962 were under the supervision of Irwin W. Popham, County School Superintendent, and F. W. Horton, Assistant Superintendent. Other superintendents included Dr. Carl Hartman, Leon Holden, Wade M. Smith, Jr., Mrs. Maud Douglas, Mrs. George R. Felter.

## CHAPTER X

# *The University of Texas*

The story of the University of Texas as part of Texas' educational system dates back to 1832, when Stephen F. Austin suggested that schools and colleges be provided. In its declaration of independence on March 2, 1836, the Republic of Texas incorporated the statement:

It (the government of Mexico) has failed to establish any public system of education, although possessed of almost boundless resources (the public domain), and although it is an axiom in political science that unless a people are educated and enlightened it is idle to expect the continuance of civil liberty, or the capacity for self government.

Thus, the writers of the constitution included the provision that ". . . it shall be the duty of Congress, as soon as circumstances will permit, to provide by law a general system of education."<sup>1</sup>

On January 14, 1839, when Texas' Congress provided for the selection of a site for the seat of government, to be named Austin, they also provided that the site selected be laid out into a town with land designated therein for ". . . capitol, arsenal, magazine, university, academy, churches, common school, hospital, penitentiary, and for all other necessary public buildings and purposes."<sup>2</sup>

Accordingly, when the town was laid out, the present site of the University, a forty-acre square was designated as "college hill," although it was in the early 1880's before the University became a reality. (See plan of city of Austin, 1839, prepared by L. J. Pilie and Charles Schoolfield.)

Thus, the establishment of a University for Texas was initiated in 1839, and on January 26, Congress set aside fifty leagues of land in what was then the wilds of West Texas, for university education in the Republic of Texas.<sup>3</sup>

The subject was a recurring one before the legislative bodies



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of the Republic of Texas and of the state after Texas became a state. In 1855, the *Texas State Times* of March 2, had an article headed "The State University Again," advocating the location of the University in Austin, and ending, ". . . as a people—keep awake!"

In 1857, Governor Pease brought the matter up, and there was comment that the legislature probably would act to establish only one university, instead of two, and in the ensuing discussions and debates about that, one legislator expressed, "holy horror at the idea of bringing up children on Congress Avenue in this city."<sup>4</sup>

In 1858, the legislature again took up the matter of establishing the University. A bill was passed on February 11, 1858, providing for the appropriation of \$100,000 of United States bonds in the treasury, the fifty leagues given in 1839, and one section of land out of each ten surveyed and reserved under the act of January 30, 1854, or acts concerning grants to railroad companies, etc. This bill in 1858 provided that ten persons be appointed as administrators of the University of Texas.<sup>5</sup>

Just as the University became a possibility, the Civil War interposed and appropriations and accumulations of funds were diverted to defense. The legislatures in January, 1860 and in January-February, 1861, transferred \$134,768.62 in funds for the University to revenue account. A total of \$379,168.00 from these funds was diverted to the Civil War.<sup>6</sup>

In the Texas Constitution of 1866, at the end of the war, the legislature was directed to provide for the organization and operation of the University.<sup>7</sup> In 1866, Governor Pease appointed the following ten administrators of the University: Robert Bechern, George B. Erath, I. W. Ferris, Henry F. Gillette, William S. Glass, P. W. Kettrell, Gustave Schleicher, S. A. Stockdale, William C. Webb, and Charles S. West. By 1872, there were only eight members of this board, and Governor Davis named the following as members: E. G. Benners, C. R. Johns, J. R. Morris, S. Mussina, S. G. Newton, James H. Raymond, Hamilton Stuart, and M. A. Taylor. In 1873, Governor Davis appointed the following: A. H. Bryant, Edward Degener, John W. Harris, John C. Raymond, George W. Smyth, James H. Starr, Hamilton Stuart, and James W. Talbot. Also, in 1866, Governor Pease appointed M. W. Allen as agent for the University lands, and a

board of administration for the University was appointed by the legislature and met on February 15, 1867. In 1871, Governor Davis recommended the cancellation of bonds issued to school and university funds in 1866.

This directive stipulated that one-tenth of alternate sections of land granted to railroads, which were appropriated for the University by the act of February 11, 1858, were not included in the permanent University fund. Provision was made in this constitution for the sale of such land, and the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, established by legislative act on April 17, 1871, was made a branch of the University of Texas, for study of agriculture, mechanic arts and related natural sciences. Governor Coke in 1874, deplored the fact that school funds were not being used.

In the Texas constitution, adopted in 1876, the legislature again was directed to provide for the establishment, maintenance, support and direction of a university of the first class, site to be selected by vote of the people, and named the University of Texas. Provision was made for the permanent university fund to include lands and other property, proceeds of their sales, and appropriations, grants and donations made hereafter by the State or other sources. As such funds were realized and received in the state treasury, they were to be invested in bonds of the State of Texas, if available, or of the United States, with interest from such bonds to be appropriated by the legislature for university purposes.

Section 14 of the state constitution reads: "The Legislature shall also, when deemed practicable, establish and provide for the maintenance of a college, or branch university, for the instruction of the colored youths of the state, to be located by a vote of the people; provided, that no tax shall be levied, and no money appropriated out of the general revenue, either for this purpose or for the establishment and erection of the buildings of the University of Texas."

Section 15 provided that one million acres of land be set aside and appropriated to the University of Texas, to be designated and surveyed as directed. The same provisions prevailed regarding sale of this land and investment of the revenue as provided for the permanent university funds. Governor Hubbard, in his message to Congress of January 14, 1879, talked of

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the 219,906 acres in nine counties belonging to the university, valued at \$3.50 per acre, or \$768,672, set aside for the establishment and maintenance of the university.<sup>8</sup> A. & M. College had been organized and the colored college was in operation.

The exciting episode of 1881 was the actual beginning of the university, when the legislative act of March 30, 1881 directed that the location be decided by a vote of the people, that regents be appointed, buildings constructed, faculty elected for a university, open to male and female on equal terms, without charge for tuition.

By June, 1881, there was so much discussion concerning the location, in Austin or elsewhere, that the *Dallas Weekly Herald* expressed the feelings of many: "There is poetic justice in building a great University on the very spot selected for that purpose by those who made and gave us Texas, at the time when they were yet struggling for their freedom."<sup>9</sup>

Under the legislative act of March 30, 1881, an election was authorized for the first Tuesday of September, 1881, when Austin was chosen over other cities (Waco, Tyler, Thorp Springs, Lampasas, Williams Ranch, Albany, Graham, Matagorda, Caddo Grove, and Peak) with the Medical School to be at Galveston.

Under an amendment to this same act on April 1, 1881, the board of regents, composed of eight members, from different locales in Texas, were named by the governor and approved by the Senate. On November 15, 1881, the members of the board of regents met in Austin: Ashbel Smith, T. J. Devine, R. B. Hubbard, N. A. Edwards, Smith Ragsdale, J. W. Throckmorton, J. H. Hall and J. H. Starr. The latter three were replaced by T. M. Harwood, T. D. Wooten, and J. L. Camp, in the organization of the university.

Construction was then begun on the Main Building's west wing for \$59,000. On November 17, 1882, while the Board of Regents was in Austin, cornerstone ceremonies included a parade to the site of College Hill, where a platform had been constructed near the southwest side of the main building site. Dr. Smoot gave the invocation, and Dr. Ashbel Smith, president of the first board of regents, introduced Governor O. M. Roberts and Attorney General J. H. McLeary, who spoke. Spectators sat on stumps of trees which had been cleared from College Hill.



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On September 15, 1883, at ten o'clock in the morning, the University opened, with thirteen professors and 218 students. Classes met at the temporary capitol until January 1, 1884, when they moved to the west wing of the Main Building at the completion of construction.

The first faculty consisted of Robert S. Gould and O. M. Roberts, law professors; Dr. J. W. Mallet, chemistry and physics, with J. J. Atkinson as assistant; William Leroy Brown, mathematics, with E. E. Bramlette as assistant; Milton W. Humphreys, ancient languages, with E. E. Bramlette as assistant; Leslie Waggener, English language, history, and literature, assisted by L. H. Bryant; R. L. Dabney, mental and moral philosophy; H. Tallichet, modern language, assisted by J. R. Ray. Most of these men were Southerners who had fought for the South in the war. Among the thirteen Bachelor of Law degrees for 1883-84 were Albert Sidney Burleson and Sidney Mansfield Stanniforth, from Austin. Professors' salaries, set at about \$4,000, were cause for complaint, and there were criticisms of the nearly \$20,000 spent for chemical and physical equipment.

Criticisms even extended to the free grazing on the over two million acres of university lands, and state control was questioned.

The medical department provided in the legislative act of February 11, 1858, for instruction in medicine and surgery, was located in Galveston, since the act of March 30, 1881, provided that it be separate from the academic school. Sealy Hospital soon was a part of this school.

By 1884, the new members of the faculty were: George Bruce Halsted, James F. Harrison, Edgar E. Everhart, Alvin V. Lane, Mrs. H. M. Kirby, George F. Garrison, and Charles F. Gompertz.<sup>10</sup>

Abner H. Cook, assumed the completion of construction at the University when his father, Colonel Cook, died in 1884. The auditorium was planned to seat 2,000 people, there was a large library, 100x70, and the assembly hall had 1,000 folding chairs. The building fronted south, and from east to west was 280 feet long, and 149 feet from north to south. There was gas light, then electric lights, and there was no elevator then. A 16-foot corridor running through the building crossed a 14-foot hall, and provisions were made for a tower clock visible on four sides.

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The shade trees on the campus date back to 1884, when about seven hundred of them were planted. Graduates from Austin in 1884-85 at the University were Samuel Clark Red, Bethel Coopwood, Jr., T. W. Gregory, James Robert Hamilton, and Anderson James Peeler, Jr.

The Ex-Students Association began in 1885, as the Alumni Association, organized on commencement day June 17, with E. M. Hicks as first president, Jessie Patten as vice-president, A. S. Walker, Jr., as secretary, and T. W. Gregory, as treasurer.<sup>11</sup>

Austinites receiving degrees in 1885-86, included E. E. Bramlette, J. B. Lewright, Jessie Andrews, C. Pessells, G. Calhoun, F. Fiset, A. J. Gibson, G. E. Hefner, O. Fisher, C. H. Miller, A. T. Patrick, and A. S. Walker, Jr.

By 1886, the campus, where Ben Thompson once practiced his shooting, was being cleared of weeds and growth, and grass was growing and being mowed regularly, and there were walks and carriage ways.

In 1887, commencement exercises were held at Millet Opera House, on June 15, and a degree was awarded to Minnie G. Dill among the three Bachelors of Arts, five Bachelors of Letters, and twenty-four Bachelors of Law—other Austinites receiving degrees for that 1886-87 term were R. W. Smith, Lillie Carrington, L. M. Dabney, S. B. Dabney, C. C. Ferrell, J. M. Goggin, Samuel Hough, J. W. Jack, and I. R. Oeland.

Interest in the University was reflected in 1887, when teachers in Austin were subscribing money for a summer normal school at the University, with 700-1,000 teachers expected.<sup>12</sup> Summer school was held August 5-31, and under the authorization of the State Board of Education, certificates were secured for two years.

In April, 1888, the Texas legislature appropriated \$125,000 and provided that \$50,000 of this be for the medical branch at Galveston.

Austinites receiving degrees in 1887-88 were A. J. Clopton, J. H. Herndon, S. M. Morris, N. A. Dawson, L. Doughty, W. W. Moore, J. M. Poer, and M. White.

In 1888, Harry Yandell Benedict, who later was to become the University's tenth president, enrolled in school and was a mathematics professor before the century ended.

In February, 1888, the University listed nine graduates.<sup>13</sup>

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There were 223 students, and this number was increased to 250 by November.<sup>14</sup> By 1889, there were 300 students at the University, with forty of them being female.<sup>15</sup>

James B. Clark was proctor from about 1885 until he died in 1908, and Clark Field later was named for him. In the catalogue of 1890, the proctor's duties were listed as receiving all sums from students and paying local expenses under regulations of the regents. He also served as faculty secretary, University librarian, building and police supervisor.

The Board of Regents in 1889-90 consisted of T. D. Wooten, of Travis County, Seth Shepard, T. C. Thompson, Wm. L. Prather, T. M. Harwood, E. J. Simkins, George T. Todd, G. W. Brackenridge.<sup>18</sup>

The faculty listed Leslie Waggener as chairman, and H. Tallichet, O. M. Roberts, Robert S. Gould, Robert L. Dabney, George Bruce Halsted, Edgar Everhart, J. R. Setlington Sterrett, Alexander Macfarlane, Frederic W. Simonds, George P. Garrison, T. U. Taylor, Thomas Fitzhugh, J. Magnenat, Jessie Andrews, Mrs. H. M. Kirby, and James B. Clark.<sup>17</sup> Mrs. Helen Marr Kirby, who had conducted the Alta Vista Institute in Austin, was "lady assistant" at the University, serving as women's dean.<sup>18</sup>

Enrollment is shown as follows:

	Academic	Law	Total
1883-84	166	52	218
1884-85	151	55	206
1885-86	138	60	198
1886-87	170	73	243
1887-88	176	73	249
1888-89	187	91	278

By December 1, 1900, there were 750 students.<sup>19</sup>

There were 307 students in 1889-90 and degrees were, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Letters, and Bachelor of Science.<sup>20</sup>

The 1889 commencement exercises were held at University Hall. The University catalogue for that term listed approved high schools, with their principals:<sup>21</sup>

Austin High School, I. H. Bryant  
Houston High School, C. W. Welch  
Ball High School (Galveston), H. Lee Sellers  
Belton High School, J. P. Kinnard



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Bryan High School, A. L. Banks  
Corsicana High School, W. Lipscomb  
San Antonio Academy, W. B. Seeley  
San Antonio High School, W. Schoch  
Waco High School, Mrs. W. G. House, (Superintendent)  
Brenham High School, H. Flynn  
Tyler High School, P. V. Pennybacker, (Superintendent)  
Rockdale High School, John W. Clark, (Superintendent)  
El Paso High School, Miss E. B. Meekins  
Dallas High School, A. B. Wilson  
La Grange High School, R. P. Kirk  
Mexia High School, R. B. Cousins, (Superintendent)  
Blanco High School, W. H. Bruce  
Fannin College, J. W. Hudson  
Taylor High School, A. E. Hill, (Superintendent)  
Mineola High School, D. C. Lake, (Superintendent)  
Round Rock Institute, A. S. J. Steele

In 1889-90, there were two literary societies at the University, the Athenaeum and the Rusk, and University students were publishing a monthly literary magazine.

B Hall, courtesy of George W. Brackenridge's donation of about \$10,000, was completed about December 1, 1890, with rooms and a restaurant. Rooms were \$6 a month, with two to a room, and board was about \$8 to \$12 a month. In those first days card playing and liquor were forbidden at B Hall. Students managed the hall until 1909, when John Calhoun, a faculty member, was placed in charge.

Menus were something like this one:<sup>22</sup>

glass of milk .....	3c
oatmeal and milk .....	3c
ham .....	3c
steak .....	3c
2 eggs .....	3c
hot biscuits .....	2c
Vienna bread .....	1c
Rio coffee and cream .....	2c
soup .....	2c
pie .....	3c
pudding .....	2½c
cake .....	2c

No mention of B Hall should be made without a corresponding comment on Beck's Lake near the old library building (now Barker history center). H. B. Beck was custodian of B Hall and

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created this trysting spot that the students sought.

On Saturday, January 9, 1892, scientists from Texas met at the Chemical Laboratory at the University and organized a scientific association to be called the Texas Academy of Science.<sup>23</sup>

By June, 1893, the University had its main building, B hall, chemical building, biology laboratory, chemical laboratory, school of applied mathematics, physical laboratory and library. Dr. William J. Battle was an associate professor of Greek, progressing on to dean and president, and in 1949, retired. By 1893, pharmacy became a part of the Medical School and came to Austin in 1927.

There was football in Austin on Saturday, November 11, 1893, when two picked teams of University students played, in uniform, at 4:15 p.m., and as the paper put it, people were to see "the boys chase the pig-skin."<sup>24</sup>

The English College started in 1894, and the University Glee Club gave its first concert on Friday night, March 3, 1894.<sup>25</sup> Schools listed in 1894 included English, Greek, Latin, Teutonic Languages, History, Roman Languages, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Biology, Geology, Physics, Pedagogy, Philosophy and Political Science and Law. Degrees conferred included two Masters of Arts, six Bachelors of Arts, six Bachelors of Letters, seven Bachelors of Science (including Branch Smith), one Civil Engineering to E. P. Schoch, and twenty-nine Bachelors of Law.

During Governor Culberson's term, in 1895, the regents at the University were authorized to manage their lands and name a president, which they did, with Leslie Waggener being the first University president.

In 1895, another man came to the University, who was to become an Austinite and Texan of note, Dr. Eugene Campbell Barker, as a student first, then a professor, and for over 25 years he was editor of the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*. His name soon became synonymous with Texas history, and the Texas History Center is named for this man.

On June 19, 1895, commencement exercises were held and degrees conferred on three in Civil Engineering, four Masters of Law, twenty-eight Bachelors of Law, five Masters of Arts, six Bachelors of Arts (including Morris Sheppard), sixteen Bachelors of Letters (including Jessie Andrews and Lila M.

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Casis), two Bachelors of Science (including J. W. McClendon).

In 1896 Dr. George T. Winston came to the University from his former position as president of the University of North Carolina. John A. Lomax arrived in the summer of 1895, to do some study prior to enrolling in September, on his 28th birthday. He later became famous for his cowboy songs and ballads.

Elisabet Ney was in Austin attempting to get a school of liberal arts started at the University in 1895.<sup>26</sup> And John Blaine was appointed as land agent to manage University lands, but it was later decided that a special agent was not needed, and he was dismissed.<sup>27</sup>

In 1896, the University Co-Op started its store just under the stairway of the second floor of the Main Building at the University, in a spot just 10x20.<sup>28</sup>

On June 17, 1896, degrees awarded included five Masters of Arts (with E. P. Schoch and Miss L. M. Casis in this group), two Masters of Science, six Bachelors of Arts, thirteen Bachelors of Letters, and eight Bachelors of Science.

In 1896, the board of regents appropriated \$500 to build a gymnasium for University sports.<sup>29</sup> And an excursion trip was made to Mexico by the Texas and Missouri University football teams in 1897, with many rooters going too. Missouri won, 18-6.<sup>30</sup>

The library was the beneficiary during February, 1897, when Swante Palm gave the University of Texas his private collection of books.<sup>31</sup>

March 2, Texas Independence day, became an occasion in 1897, when students deemed it worthy of a holiday and were led in their crusade by C. H. Carter, J. S. Jones, W. A. Keeling, J. W. McClendon, Pat M. Neff and Morris Sheppard.

A significant event of 1897 was the organization of the Texas State Historical Association. A preliminary meeting had been held originally on April 7, 1890,<sup>32</sup> but the actual organization took place on February 13, 1897, when a small group of people interested in Texas and its historic past, met at the first organizational meeting at the capitol on March 2, Texas Independence Day. O. M. Roberts was elected president, and the first issue of the *Quarterly* came out in July. Dudley G. Wooten was second president of the group, from 1898-99, and John H. Reagan from 1899-03. To this group goes the credit for pre-



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serving, in writing, the traditions and history of Texas, and encouraging its study by present-day Texans. And mention must be made of Dr. Horace Bailey Carroll, who has diligently directed the research in Texas history.

In 1898, the Alumni Association of the University authorized the completion of busts of O. M. Roberts and Swante Palm, to be placed in the University after they were finished by Elisabet Ney.

In September, the Athletic Council at the University met and selected D. J. Edwards of Princeton, to be coach for the 1898 season, with games starting October 8, and teams like Missouri and Sewanee booked.<sup>33</sup>

In 1898, the Young Ladies' Glee Club was entertaining at the gymnasium in the basement of the main building; the football field was in the northwest corner of the campus; and an art building and botanical gardens and an astronomical observatory were being planned.<sup>34</sup>

The legislature's appropriation in 1899, on May 2, for the support and maintenance of the University, was \$35,000.<sup>35</sup> And there was talk of caps and gowns being worn at commencement time.<sup>36</sup>

During the 1898-99 term, there were around 800 students at the University, with about 83 professors and instructors.<sup>37</sup>

The question of the term of the regents in office arose between the University and the legislatures. At first each successive group of legislators appointed two regents to replace two whose terms expired; Governor Ross, however, appointed eight new regents. By 1899, they returned to the system of each legislature appointing only two.

By fall, 1899, the chemical library had about 300 books; classes were started in the Young Ladies' Gymnasium, and furniture was coming in for the new wing of the main building.<sup>38</sup> The paper often commented on how athletics at the University were luring the students from their studies; athletics had been supervised by the Athletic Council since 1896.

During 1899, someone initiated the idea of having a University Calendar, which was posted on the bulletin board in February, 1899, listing club meetings, entertainments, baseball scores.<sup>39</sup> By April, the calendar was agitating for a "telephone boy" at the University, because just anyone was answering the

phone!<sup>40</sup>

The University baseball team beat La Salle, 9-8, that spring. There was a field day at the University in May, and that University Calendar had its own office, in Professor Garrison's old office.<sup>41</sup>

By spring, 1899, the Austin Dam and Suburban Railway, which had run out to the dam during its construction, was laying tracks up Wichita Street, and not on University Avenue, as previously planned, in order not to be on the main entrance to the University.<sup>42</sup> Law students who were classmates of the son of President Barclay of the Railway Line, were invited for a free ride later that month.<sup>43</sup>

At commencement, June 16-19, 1899, two Masters of Arts degrees, one Bachelor of Arts to Mignonette Carrington, five Bachelors of Letters, three Bachelors of Sciences, and thirty-one Bachelors of Laws, were awarded.

During June, there was a mass meeting held to discuss purchase of the Varsity Athletic Field, a plot of 3½ acres, east of the school. The students subscribed their library deposits of \$5 each to help toward its purchase.<sup>44</sup> By fall, the street running through these fourteen lots was closed.<sup>45</sup> And students were saddened that fall by the defeat of Texas by Sewanee, 12-0.<sup>46</sup>

Summer school classes were being scheduled by 1898, and Dr. Leslie Waggener was president from 1895-96; Dr. George T. Winston from 1896-99; and Dr. William L. Prather from 1899-05.

Names that have become noted in the capital city for their association with education at the University of Texas are many, including H. Y. Benedict, John A. Lomax, and T. U. Taylor.

Many of the men who registered at the University in the 80's to study there, stayed on as faculty members. Henry Winston Harper, who soon became anonymous with a bright bow tie, was a chemistry professor in 1894; George F. Garrison was teaching at the University a year after it opened, and was well known to English and history classes.

Robert Lynn Batts, born at Bastrop in the 1860's came to teach law in the 1890's and also R. S. Gould, and O. M. Roberts, first law professor, and Thomas Watt Gregory, in 1884, and a lawyer in Austin later.

Robert T. Hill taught geology at the University, and was

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in the Travis County area in the 1880's and 1890's, and made many field trips through the Balcones Escarpment, which he named, and he, with Wayland Vaughan, described the Austin Quadrangle in the Austin Folio, in 1902. See map of this. Dr. James W. McLaughlin, who practiced in Austin in the early 70's was on the staff of the University later.

Sidney E. Mezes taught philosophy at the University in the mid-nineties, and later married Annie O. Hunter, sister of Loulie who married Colonel E. M. House.

Thomas S. Miller was teaching law at the University in 1893; T. U. Taylor started the engineering school while he was a teacher there, became dean of engineering in 1896, and died in Austin in 1941. William S. Simkins taught law at the University at the turn of the century, for about three decades, and it was he who greeted Carrie Nation when she came to Austin.

According to the Texas Handbook, Jessie Andrews was the first girl to register at the University, and she had her BA in three years. After some practice teaching at Mrs. Hood's school, she again set a record by being the first woman instructor at the University in 1888. She and her sister, Miss Fannie, were well known to Austin, as was their shop, "Ye Quality Shoppe."<sup>47</sup>

Morris Shepard was a student in the 1890's, and later became a senator. Fred W. Simonds, who started teaching geology about 1890, completed about half a century in that field. In 1897, Harry P. Steger was at the University, and later was executor of O. Henry's estate and of his writings, which he issued in a collection.

William S. Sutton went from his teaching position in education in 1897 to the presidency after the 1900's started. Dr. Robert Lewis Dabney, professor of mental and moral science, was more famous because he had been with Stonewall Jackson when he died in the Civil War.

Many eminent educators were identified with the University in later years, as Dr. Robert A. Law, English Department Shakesperean scholar, who was there for 50 years; Dr. Eugene Paul Schoch, who organized the Longhorn Band in 1900, by buying \$180 of musical instruments from a pawnbroker, was an engineering professor and faculty member for sixty years.

It was William L. Prather, speaking to the students, who inspired the theme song of the University of Texas, when he



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said, "the eyes of Texas are upon you." Prather's remark dated back to days when he had been a student at Washington College, Lexington, Va., and had heard Robert E. Lee, president there, often say, "the eyes of the South are upon you." In 1903, John Lang Sinclair wrote the song that has become synonymous with the school, and in 1903, at a benefit minstrel at the Hancock Opera House, the song was sung.

The University had four buildings in 1904, Main Building, Woman's Building, B Hall, and a building later called the Speech Building.

The new century saw many up-to-date buildings, Business Administration, Architecture, Chemistry, Law, Engineering, Home Economics, Hogg Auditorium, Woman's, Brackenridge Hall, Power Plant, Men's Gymnasium, Women's Gymnasium, Student Union, Administration, and another half century saw many of these replaced by newer buildings, including a library building, later to become the Texas History Center.

The student publications started almost simultaneously with the school. Volume I of the University of Texas Magazine was in 1885-86, and was first published by the Athenaeum and Rusk Literary Societies, and later by the Student Association. It has been termed the University of Texas Literary Magazine, the Texas University, and the Longhorn Magazine.

Fraternities published the Cactus at first, then the Athletic Council, and later the Student Association. Volume I, 1894, lists Dabney White as editor.

Volume I, of the Texas Weekly, in December, 1884, named G. B. Voellett, editor. L. E. Hill and Charles D. Oldright were editors of the Alcalde for its Volume I, in 1895. Volume II of the Ranger, 1897, had J. C. Palm as editor.

The Calendar, a weekly journal for the university, in 1889, had twenty-five issues between March and June, with R. W. Wortham, editor. Volume II, during 1899-1900, had fifty-four issues, and L. L. Featherstone was editor.

The first four volumes of the Texan were issued privately, and from volume five on, has been a publication of the Student Association. Volume I, 1900-01, had Fritz G. Lanham and F. T. West as editors.

The Peripatos, was published privately as a commencement publication. The Coyote, a comic publication, was also pri-

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vately published and Volume I in 1908-09, had W. A. Philpott as editor.

The Longhorn started in 1915 as a private publication. The Blunderbuss, Volume I, 1914, was anonymous and unmailable. In the summer of 1910, one issue of the Campus Record was seen. An anti-frat magazine was also published about 1913 and Volume I listed Attilu, the Hun, editor; Alaric, the Goth, assistant editor; Genseric, the Vandal, business manager.

The Daily Texan began as a weekly in 1900 and became a daily 13 years later. In 1906, the School of Education began, the Bureau of Economic Geology in 1909, and the Extension Division in 1910. In 1912-13 the Alcalde started as a publication for the alumni, and in 1922, the Graduate School was started. The Bureau of Engineering Research began in 1924, as did the Department of Business Administration. Texas Memorial Stadium was dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1924. In 1930-31, the men's and women's gymnasiums were built with the assistance of the Ex-Students Association, as were Hogg Memorial Auditorium and the Union Building in 1933.

The story of the 20th century will depict the progress of multiple phases of education at the University and development of nationally known libraries, including the Eugene C. Barker Texas History Center, Austin Papers, Bexar, Latin American Collection, Wrenn Library, Stark Collection, Garcia, Rare Books, and the South's largest newspaper collection.

The McDonald Observatory, named for W. J. McDonald, who donated over one million dollars for this project (which was reduced to \$794,199 after the will was contested), was begun in 1932, atop Mt. Locke, in the Davis Mountains of West Texas, and operated by the Universities of Chicago and Texas.

The impressive Littlefield Memorial Fountain was the result of a gift from George W. Littlefield, to outstanding men of the South he loved; along the walk at this entrance to the Main Building are statues of Woodrow Wilson, Jefferson Davis, J. S. Hogg, Albert Sidney Johnston, Stephen Reagan, and Robert E. Lee.

For almost the first quarter century, enrollment at the University of Texas was under 1,000. In the 1900-01 term, 1,094 students were enrolled at the main University and its branches.

Among the scholastic and professional groups in 1962, are

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Mortar Board, Orange Jackets, Cowboys, Friars, Literary and Debate Clubs, Curtain Club, Glee Clubs, Cap and Gown, Home Economic Clubs, denominational groups, representing many faiths, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A.

Publications include Cactus, Texas Ranger, and University Yearbook. The Health Center has physicians and nurses, and physical examinations are required of students.

Between 1960 and 1962, there were seven endowed chairs and professorships at the University.

In 1924, the first oil well on University land came in in Reagan County. In the fall of 1962, it was estimated the University's Permanent Fund totals about \$390,000,000, attributed greatly to the oil wells on its West Texas acreage. This fund, as provided by the constitution written by pioneering forefathers, cannot be spent, but is invested and the income is placed in the available fund, about \$12,000,000 annually, and is divided, with one-third to A. & M. College, and the University's two-thirds is expendable for buildings (the legislature is prohibited from appropriations for this), and educational expenses. Other sources of income for operation are annual appropriations by the legislature, student fees, private gifts and grants, and federal funds.

In September, 1935, the University opened its investment office to handle bonds in its permanent fund, etc.

In these days of defense, research has become an increasing industry at the University of Texas, with science and engineering departments complementing arts and language departments. One of the first groups in this field of research was the Defense Research Laboratory, directed by Dr. C. P. Boner for nearly 20 years.

Nuclear physics has a fine faculty and facilities that are being boosted, as in engineering, by new equipment, as accelerators, reactors, generators, etc. Attracting much attention is the recent computer center.

The University of Texas faculty is approaching the thousand figure, contributing teaching talent and research. Research has increased from 37 government sponsored projects in 1951, to 247 in 1962, with around eight million dollars from government and industry being funneled into research.

In 1962, over 20,000 undergraduate students registered, and nearly 2,500 graduate students. In 1963, there is a new feature



## *History of Travis County*

for the undergraduate student, an undergraduate library and academic center, on the west walk to the Main Building, with R. Henderson Shuffler as director of the Texana program. Here will be housed collections in all phases and fields. Also available is the main library, Latin American collection and many research facilities.

Buildings include Architecture, Biology, Business and Economics, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Engineering Laboratories, English, Experimental Science, Geology, Greenhouse, Home Economics, Journalism, Law, Main, Music, Old Library, Petroleum Engineering, Pharmacy, Physics, Power, Press, Printing Division, Radio-TV, ROTC, Service, Speech, and Union. Many are designated as halls—Batts, Benedict, Garrison, Mezes, Pearce, Sutton, Taylor, Townes and Waggener, and Laboratories, as Biological, and others, as Botany Annex, Computation Center, Gregory Gymnasium, Health Center, Hogg Auditorium, Littlefield Home, Texas Memorial Museum, and Women's Gymnasium.

Temporary buildings include A Hall, Art Building, Band Hall, C. P. Hall, E. D. Hall, M Hall, R Hall, S Hall, V Hall and Z Hall and in the building process is a six-story building to house science programs and coordinated projects of the Physics Department, Engineering College, and the Defense Research Laboratory.

The University of Texas has progressed from its opening on September 15, 1883, with 13 professors and 218 students, to the South's largest school of higher education, with 21,390 students registered in the fall of 1962, 79 years later.

The Ex-Students' Association can claim to be one of the largest alumni groups, and with the dues of its nearly 200,000 members generates good will through its "Operation Information" and "Operation Brainpower."

The story of the 1960's will list the research programs in the fields of cellulose, cotton, electronics, nuclear physics, missiles, radar, etc. The rank the University merits in the fields of arts, drama, sports will be reflected. In the decades of this century a powerful physical plant has emerged from its building program, and the continuing stream of students and faculty and visitors contribute a vital part to the city's and county's progress.

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Culture is the University's chief contribution to the city and county. In the fine arts field, plays, concerts, art exhibits, etc., are furnished, often free, to the public. Through the cultural entertainment committee, outstanding artists are available. The University cooperates with the Austin Symphony Orchestra. Eminent speakers, such as Werner von Braun, attract students and citizens, as do all athletic events of the University and the Interscholastic League.

Civic services by the University include a legal aid clinic, a speech and hearing clinic, workshops in many fields, to name a few.

Economically, there is no gauge of student spending in the capitol city, or of the financial flow from faculty and visitors into the city and county economy.

## CHAPTER XI

### *The State Capitol and Newspapers*

The present Texas capitol is the fourth state capitol building in Austin and Travis County. The first building was located at about the northeast corner of West Eighth and Colorado Streets, and served as the last capitol of the Republic of Texas and the first capitol of the State of Texas.

The second state capitol was built close to the center of the site set aside for the capitol in 1839, in front of the present site, and the cornerstone was set on August 3, 1852. This building served until November 9, 1881, when it burned. Also ruined in the fire was the monument to Alamo heroes in the grounds, made of stone from the Alamo. Ironically, plans were under way for a new capitol before this building burned. The third capitol was a temporary one. Three million acres of land had been appropriated for a new building and other needed public places by the men who wrote the state constitution of 1876.<sup>1</sup> By 1879, the legislature had provided that three million and fifty thousand acres be designated, surveyed and sold for this purpose; with a capitol board, building superintendent and commissioners named to carry out the plans. The land was valued at 50c an acre as a minimum. Joseph Lee and N. L. Norton were named building commissioners, and building superintendent was J. N. Preston.<sup>2</sup> Napoleon Le Brun, of New York City, was consulting architect, and E. E. Myers, of Detroit, did the designing. The commissioners were advertising for bids by July 1, 1881, before the old capitol burned. When J. N. Preston resigned as superintendent, he was replaced by W. D. Clark, and later by General R. L. Walker, and the commissioners were investigating materials most practical for the capitol building.

Matteas Schnell of Rock Island, Illinois, was the winning bidder over A. A. Burck of Rockdale, Texas, but after the contract was signed with Schnell in January, 1882, he transferred



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his interest in it, in May, 1882, to John V. Farwell, Charles B. Farwell, Abner Taylor and Amos G. Babcock, of the firm of Taylor, Babcock and Company, who became the contractors for the capitol. Out of the land they received, those three million acres, grew the XIT Ranch, developed later with money the Farwells borrowed in England.<sup>3</sup>

By October, 1882, Amos Babcock was in Austin to arrange for a railroad to transport the building material to the capitol site, since it had been decided to use Texas stone. He wanted to convey this material up the avenue, but the city council disagreed, and it was decided to route the railroad line up East Avenue for conveyance. This branch line was built along East Avenue, crossing west at Twelfth Street, and running into the east gate of the capitol, and on around the grounds. Later, when work was under way, the granite was unloaded at night, and the stone was carted to the work site. Once, as they took loads up to the second floor, the floor gave way, and a man was killed; from this incident arose the story that still persists in Austin, that a worker was killed when he fell down between the high double walls and died, and it was not possible to rescue his body.

A high bridge was built over Waller Creek on East Twelfth Street, on the route of this railroad spur, and a man still living in Austin remembers the runs of this train which took over 15,000 loads of material to the capitol grounds, because when he was a small boy, he watched for the train as it came up East Avenue, hopped on and rode it to the capitol grounds, and the men let him ride back when the granite was unloaded. This man was Abe Shaw, a Negro man, mentioned in other chapters of this story of Travis County and Austin.

Although ground breaking for the new capitol was on February 1, 1882, the construction lagged. By fall, a small city provided housing for the workmen, in the capitol grounds. At Christmas the workers serenaded the citizens.<sup>4</sup> By September, 1883, it was necessary to build a fence around the construction, and issue permits to watchers.<sup>5</sup>

Much of the growth of Oak Hill, in southwestern Travis County, was about this time; this was the location of the limestone quarry and a railroad was built to haul stone to the capitol. This town was first called Oatmanville, then Shiloh, Live Oak, and Oak Hill, and while the capitol was being constructed,

## *History of Travis County*

stores and saloons started there for the workers.

At the capitol, the project of the artesian well was abandoned when the capitol was located over that spot.<sup>6</sup>

Construction continued on the capitol, and the cornerstone was laid on March 2, 1885, the 49th anniversary of Texas Independence. It was typical of Texas, too, that the granite cornerstone be big, weighing about 16,000 pounds.

About 20,000 people congregated for the ceremonies, including a parade up the Avenue, invocation by Reverend Homer S. Thrall, benediction by Reverend Josiah W. Whipple, and speeches by Governor John Ireland and others. Many people contributed to the collection that went into the cornerstone; there was an Austin city directory, statistics about the city by Mayor J. W. Robertson; many Texas newspapers; money of the republic and state of Texas and of the Confederacy; Henry Ray put in two roasting ears of corn; F. S. Roberts an olive leaf from Mt. Zion; Bobbie Wilcox a buttonhole bouquet; and a twenty-five cent meal ticket.<sup>7</sup>

Construction was stopped on the capitol during 1885, when a controversy arose over the use of red granite, which Governor Ireland advocated, instead of the limestone. After it was decided to use the granite, it was necessary to construct a fifteen-mile railroad from the quarry near Marble Falls to connect with the Austin and Northwestern Railroad at Burnet. Convict labor was used to offset an inadequate appropriation which was originally made for limestone, and it was finished in November, 1885; and convict labor was also used to repair the railroad to Oatmanville. It was the use of convicts that caused the International Association of Granite Cutters to boycott the capitol construction, so about sixty-two granite cutters from Scotland were brought to Austin to work, for \$4 a day. When the court case over this was settled, a fine was imposed on Gus Wilke, the sub-contractor.

By 1886, the new capitol was having construction work done on it again, and over one hundred men were working, with about 1,000 laborers being on the payroll for the overall construction work at the quarries, and such.<sup>8</sup> By summer of 1886, the first story walls were completed.<sup>9</sup> By fall, the walls of the second story were nearly ready, and about ten carloads of stone were being brought in from Oatmanville daily.<sup>10</sup> 15,000 carloads

of red granite were used. Fourteen carloads of iron arrived from Belgium, and cast iron from Rusk.<sup>11</sup> The capitol dome being made in Charleroi, Belgium, was to cost about \$250,000.<sup>12</sup>

By January, 1888, the roof was completed, and the interior work was being done. Texas woods, oak, pine, cedar, ash, cherry and walnut were used. On February 26, the Goddess of Liberty was in place on the top of the capitol,<sup>13</sup> and by May the new capitol was ready. As early as April, 1888, there were comments that Mrs. Cleveland was coming for the dedication. The lights in the capitol were turned on for the first time on the night of April 20, 1888, and the building, shaped like a Greek Cross, opened to the public on April 21.<sup>14</sup>

The dedication was the occasion for a real celebration. Oscar Samostz contributed colored lights for the dome, and for weeks folks had been going out to the Encampment Grounds (now Camp Mabry), and to the Resolute Grounds (old army drill grounds north of the capitol), to watch the drill practices. The Austin Grays and Texas Rifles worked hard to appear well among the many groups coming. There was a Capitol City Cavalry Company, too, among those practicing.<sup>15</sup> The Austin Grays had new uniforms, light blue pants, darker tunics with white and gold trim, white helmets and white and blue plumes.<sup>16</sup> Parades took place that week of May 14-19, and one wonders if this capitol dedication week was the beginning of proclamations of "weeks" to celebrate certain occasions.

The crowd was increased by The Lone Star Medical Association, having its convention in Austin at that time, the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Labor, and the Colored Citizens Club.

The city of Austin brought in a professional decorator for the occasion, Harry Harman, who busied himself raising funds for a triumphal arch at Congress and Pecan, and at the entrance to the capitol grounds. There was a Drill and Dedication Association formed, with stock sold, and even the Waters-Pierce Oil Company of Galveston, sent in \$100 for a share of stock in it.<sup>17</sup> Businessmen bought the stock, and were furnished flags to fly in front of their places of business, to identify them as stockholders.<sup>18</sup>

There were parades with bands and banners and bugles all week. Businesses closed on dedication day, and there were speeches by Governor L. S. Ross, A. W. Terrell, and Temple



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Houston, son of Sam Houston, and balls and dancing.

A railroad spur one-half mile long, had been built out to the Encampment Grounds, with A. H. Swanson, manager of H. & T. C. Railroad, supervising it, and drills were daily events for the spectators. A grandstand was built there, with concessions of every kind from peanut stands up to the "gigantic Cyclorama of the Battle of Gettysburg."<sup>19</sup> This show ran for the entire week. The Missouri Pacific Railroad gave a special rate of one cent per mile for fare of drill teams coming here, in uniform. The May encampment was on during this week, and drill teams came, including: Fort Worth Invincibles, San Antonio Rifles, Sealy Rifles, Houston Light Guards, Luling Greys, Fannin Guards, Colorado Guards, Victoria Rifles, Washington Rifles, Waco Light Infantry, Montgomery, Alabama sent its Drill Blues, Robert E. Lee Rifles, Brenham Light Guards, and Johnston Guards. The Louisville Light Infantry were here, and Kentucky sent some of its pretty women.

Teachers and students came, and an educational reunion was held on Thursday, May 17, under Superintendent of Public Instruction Oscar Cooper and the regents of the University of Texas. A day was designated for this group, as for the Farmers Alliance on Tuesday, May 15, and there was a Cowboy day, and Sham Battle day.

The beer concession sold for \$5,150,<sup>20</sup> and there were bar-rooms, lunches, opera glasses, chile, souvenirs,—everything was being sold. At night, there were pyrotechnical displays with the "Paine world renowned fireworks."<sup>21</sup>

And does anyone in Texas today, have a copy of the "State Capitol Waltz," which had a picture of the new state capitol on the song, and sold for sixty cents, as a souvenir?<sup>22</sup> Or a souvenir program of dedication day, with about a dozen illustrations of Texas, or of the invitations that were sent out, or of the canes, or goblets, or vases, that were sold as souvenirs, with the capitol on them? From a great-uncle, Michael Boland, there has been handed down through the Boland-Dolan-Starr-Barkley family, a small sterling silver spoon, with the capitol imprint on it, and the star, seal and steerhead of Texas, that was a souvenir of dedication day for the new capitol.

The capitol building, set in the center of the city, is more than 309 feet high, from the basement to the silver star in the

## *The State Capitol and Newspapers*

high hand of the statue of the Goddess of Liberty. The rotunda is a center of interest to tourists, where they can look up to the dome or to the four wings of the building. This 60-foot rotunda has centered in its floor the design of the Lone Star of Texas and centered in it is the seal of the Texas Republic. This star forms a circle of over 30-feet and is surrounded by smaller circles containing the coats of arms of the nations whose flags have flown over Texas—Spanish, French, Mexican, American, Confederate. A tour of the capitol discloses marble statues of famous men of Texas, plaques, and inlays in the terrazo floor of Texas history. And if any native Austinite has never made the trip up to the dome of the capitol, his childhood in this city was not complete.

No one can tell the story of the capitol better than Mrs. Leonora B. Beck, and Bob Pool, who tell it to tourists daily there in the rotunda, or the superintendent of the building, who has the care of it. General W. P. Hardeman had that position first, but not many in 1960 know the story better than John E. Shelton and Lawrence Ledbetter who were superintendents there for many years.

There are over 400 rooms to clean, covering about eighteen acres of floor space, and terrazo floors to polish. There are about 500 steps from basement to dome, and when the woodwork is washed, there are some seven miles for the workmen to cover. There are over 400 doors and 924 windows to wash, and housekeeping for this state house is a large-scale affair. The staff includes watchmen, elevator operators, porters, maintenance men, electricians, plumbers, and carpenters.

The yard of the capitol covers about three acres, up and down hill; there is a greenhouse in the northeast corner of the grounds. Caretakers of the grounds know that it is still a tradition to wish, and people passing, pitch a penny in the fish-pond in the capitol grounds and whisper a wish. Sometimes, there are nickels, dimes, quarters, found when the pool is cleaned; once a cute little citizen discovered that a stick with chewing gum on the end will snare the coins from the water. This pond has city water now, and fish. The basement of the capital is filled with corridors and catacombs and storerooms which have been excavated out of the caliche under the building.

Hot water was not installed until early in the present cen-

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tury, and Ledbetter, who as a boy sold papers in the capitol building, later bought an old clock used in the temporary capitol, for about \$2.25.

In the days when supreme court judges were circuit judges, the state paid their expenses, and they stayed in bedrooms at the capitol, off the courtrooms proper, and the wardrobes and dressers were real antiques.

But the worst problem in this huge house, say the superintendents, are the souvenir seekers, who break away bits of the building; hinges, knobs, locks disappear; finally, the door knobs had to be bradded on to keep them intact, since the seal of the state is on them, which make them tempting as trophies to tourists. Exterior doors have the words, "Texas Capitol" on the hinges, and is it so surprising that even the school children envision souvenirs like these as beautiful bookends? In the days when it was still possible to journey up to the dome, they lifted the light there; it always had a curious charm as a keepsake of the circuitous climb up to the dome, in the days when such a trip was permitted.

From 1888 on, they have written on the walls, especially on the trip to the top. But Ledbetter looks away when you ask about this, because he remembers when he was a boy before the turn of the century, and climbed up to the dome, and as he says, "the only reason we did not take the light globe out was because there wasn't one there."

He made the trip to the dome with two boys, and at the top, they decided to write their names where no one else had. So, the boys, holding him by the ankles, let Ledbetter down over the outside of the railing first. This was at the extreme top, where you hung out over the rotunda, high above it. Then another boy, holding Ledbetter by the feet, was let down, and the third lad was holding them both, out over space, up there at the dome. Ledbetter wrote their names there under the dome, on the inside of the capitol, then too late, after being drawn up, they discovered that the writing would be upside down to anyone reading it from that top rail, so they had to do it all over again. So, you could read their names from both ways, up or down.

Names and addresses are written all over, some in the most impossible, inaccessible places, and one wonders, until he learns how Ledbetter got his there; then one looks down from that top



## *The State Capitol and Newspapers*

railing the hundreds of feet to the lobby below, and shudders. See picture of circular stairs up to the dome. Surprisingly there have been no suicides, and only one fatal accident.

Today, the tours and trips up there are supervised, and there are no chances taken. But yesterday's children wrote their names all along the trip from the fourth floor to the top, and having writ, moved on. An elevator took them then to the fourth floor and they walked to the sixth floor, where the spiral stairs start. At the seventh floor is the last landing on the curved stairways to the top, a total of 281 steps from the fourth floor up. The climb is a circuitous one, with the spiral stairs winding and weaving on up to heights in the dizzy distance, especially if you look down and see the rows of railings on each floor below, and the trek back down is just as trembly.

Tradition tells us that no other building in Austin is higher than the capitol, even the University tower deferred, and is slightly shorter, although it is on a higher spot. One odd fact was that there was no hot, running water at the capitol for so long, and many always associated hot water with the capitol.

An artesian well furnished the first water for the building and the first elevators were run by water. It is a trip everyone should take, to see the state capitol, and the catacombs below it. Often the little lads who are a problem with their souvenir seeking, are taken down to the catacombs with the lights off, and they are so impressed they do not bother the caretakers again.

In 1890, the fence around the capitol grounds was completed; money had been appropriated for this in 1889, and the stars atop this fence are there yet.

By 1962, the capitol is surrounded by new state buildings, Library Building, Courts Building, Texas Employment Commission Building, State Office Building, Insurance Building. It is interesting that these buildings are on the land originally reserved for capitol hill, bounded by Eleventh, Lavaca, Thirteenth and Brazos Streets, and will form part of a later plan for extension north to 19th Street. The monuments in the grounds include one to the Alamo, the Confederate Dead, Volunteer Firemen, Terry's Texas Rangers, Hood's Brigade, and many others. Trees in the grounds include many native Texas cedars, cottonwoods, elms, hackberries, mesquites, oaks, pecans and sycamores.

## *History of Travis County*

### NEWSPAPERS, 1839-1899<sup>23</sup>

#### AUSTIN CITY GAZETTE, 1839-42

Austin and Travis County had a newspaper by October 30, 1839, when the first edition of this paper was issued by Samuel Whiting. A weekly Wednesday edition, for \$5 yearly, it lasted until March 30, 1842.

#### LONGER'S ADVANCE, 1840

#### RING TAIL ROARER, 1840

#### THE SIX POUNDER, 1840

#### TEXAS SENTINEL (or CENTINEL), 1840-41

On January 15, 1840, this paper started with George W. Bonnell and Jacob W. Cruger. By December, 1840, Martin C. Wing was associated with Cruger, and the paper was called the Texas Centinel in early issues. It competed with the Austin City Gazette in controversies, and was a semi-weekly, and later a weekly, at \$5 yearly, until 1841. The office of the Centinel for a time was in Custard's Building south of the State Department on the west side of the Avenue, and Joseph Addison Clark came to Austin to join his old newspaper friend, Bonnell.

#### AUSTIN RAMBLER, 1841

While the era of funny papers was not arrived, this was a humorous paper published every Saturday by G. W. Morris.

#### AUSTIN DAILY BULLETIN, 1841-42

Samuel Whiting published this paper for about two months.

#### THE DAILY TEXIAN, 1841-42

Published by G. H. Harrison, covering Congress, and followed by the Weekly Texian.

#### ALARM BELL OF THE WEST, 1842

In February, 1842, this paper probably was printed in Austin, and followed by

#### THE ANTI-QUAKER, 1842

Published in March, 1842, in Austin.

#### WESTERN ADVOCATE, 1843-44

#### NEW ERA, 1845-47

A weekly, published by Joel Miner in July, 1845, until 1847.

#### TEXAS NATIONAL REGISTER, 1844-45

A weekly, by John S. Ford and Mike Cronican; later Captain Joseph Walker, joined Ford, an old friend, on this paper.

#### TEXAS DEMOCRAT, 1846-63

By January 21, 1846, this paper, formerly the Texas National Register, was being issued twice weekly, in rooms over Dieterich's store, by John S. Ford. On April 8, 1846, it became a weekly, and lasted until 1863. On April 15, 1846, it was advocating the organization of the Democrats in Travis County. In 1849, it was sold to William Cushney, and became the Weekly State Gazette in August.

#### SOUTHWESTERN AMERICAN, 1849-53

This was issued weekly by Phineas deCordova, and John S. Ford became the publisher three years later.

#### STATE GAZETTE, 1849-73

This was a weekly newspaper in 1848, with John D. Elliott as owner.

## *The State Capitol and Newspapers*

Later it became the Tri-Weekly State Gazette, then a semi-weekly, and a daily, and before the century closed it could claim to be the oldest paper published in Austin. During 1853, John Marshall and W. S. Oldham were editors of the State Gazette, and in 1862, David Richardson became editor after Marshall's death in the Civil War. This newspaper that Austin knew so long, was being issued in 1865 by John Holland and the Holland Company, and in 1866 by Nat C. Raymond, who owned it with Jo Walker. Walker was publisher in 1867, and during 1868-69, a man named Lane joined Walker on the paper. Austin Republicans published it for a time. Other editors were John D. Elliott, Joseph Walker, and Victor Thompson; and Austin had a Texas State Gazette, or a Weekly State Gazette, or a Tri-Weekly State Gazette.

### WEEKLY TEXAS STATE GAZETTE, 1849-79

This was a weekly until 1869, and was also called the Texas State Gazette, or Weekly State Gazette, or State Gazette, until 1879 as a daily. The title varies. During 1860, William Byrd, who had lived at Webberville for about ten years, was editor of the State Gazette.

### TEXAS STATE TIMES, 1851

Published as a weekly in 1851 by John S. Ford, former ranger, who had been editor of the Texas Democrat in 1846. The year 1853 is listed for this paper.

### LONE STAR RANGER, 1853

### TRI-WEEKLY STATE TIMES, 1853

### SOUTHERN INTELLIGENCER, 1856-67

A weekly. George W. Paschal, editor, during 1856, was printing his views sympathetic to the North and for Sam Houston's election; and with A. B. Norton, editor in 1860-61, they continued to advocate against secession until February 22, 1862, when they discontinued the paper during the war. It started again in 1866 until 1867, when it became the Austin Republican. A. H. Longley and Company published it for a group of Republicans in Austin until 1871.<sup>24</sup>

### TRI-WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER, 1856-67

### TEXAS SENTINEL, 1857

By June, 1857, the Texas Sentinel had started again, with W. G. O'Brien as editor, succeeded by P. W. Humphrey, who published the paper until July, 1858.<sup>25</sup>

### TEXAS STAATS-ZEITUNG (German), 1856

### RAMBLER, 1858

### CAMPAIGN INTELLIGENCER, 1859

A weekly published during the campaign of that period.

### DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM, 1859

### SCORPION, 1860

### TEXAS ALMANAC EXTRA, 1862-63

David Richardson was in Austin by July, 1862, working on the publication of the Texas Almanac while Galveston was evacuated during the Civil War, and he also was editor of the State Gazette. News came to Austin from Brenham via pony express until 1863, when Confederate money became unacceptable for the service. In Richardson's office, citizens could see the casualty lists as they were posted. By June, 1863, Richardson was owner of the Texas State Gazette, a weekly in Austin since 1849.



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TRI-WEEKLY AUSTIN REPUBLICAN, 1867-68

DAILY AUSTIN REPUBLICAN, 1868

WEEKLY AUSTIN REPUBLICAN, 1867-71

RECORD, 1869

DAILY STATE JOURNAL, 1870-74

WEEKLY STATE JOURNAL, 1870-74

AUSTIN EVENING TELEGRAPH, 1870

VORWARTS (German), 1871-75—weekly

REFORMER, 1871—weekly

DEMOCRATIC STATESMAN, 1871

In January, 1871, Austin was the site of a Democratic convention, at which it was decided to remove the radicals from government, and to establish an organ to publish the policies, under a committee of three to be selected by the central committee, composed of M. H. Powers, S. C. Sneed, William H. Walton, and from this the Statesman Publishing Company evolved, and the Democratic Statesman was started advocating constitutional government. John Cardwell was editor, and soon owned the paper, which started as a tri-weekly on July 26, 1871, with four pages of five columns. On August 1, the Weekly Statesman started, and on Wednesday, January 8, 1873, the first issue of the Daily Democratic Statesman was issued. By August 1, 1871, the weekly was "going over the state as a campaign paper of about three to five thousand copies weekly."<sup>26</sup> In the Texas newspapers, it is listed as the Democratic Statesman, Daily Democratic Statesman, Austin Statesman, Austin Weekly Statesman, Austin Weekly Statesman and Diversified Farmer (1898-06), Weekly Democratic Statesman, and Austin Statesman. When the Democrats met again in August, the paper commented on August 17, 1871, about taxes being collected at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1%, whereas the charter specified  $\frac{1}{12}$  of 1%. Soon, Austin was the site of a convention of taxpayers, with Governor Pease as president, and there were speeches at the old gathering ground at Congress Avenue and Pecan Street, when they met on August 5, 1871. The theme was taxes, which had been raised from 15c in the 1860's to \$2.17 $\frac{1}{2}$  in 1871, with poll taxes costing \$2. There were four papers in Austin: the Daily Journal, representing the Republicans; the Reformer; the Gazette, and a German paper, the Vorwarts; the time was right for a new newspaper.

In 1876, the program for the State Fair was published by the Democratic Statesman, and it was advertised as the "only first class Democratic paper at the capitol." When the Austin Statesman was a morning paper until the late 1880's, it had an office in the Hancock Theater Building, along with Western Union. By January 1, 1890, the Statesman was issued as a daily and a weekly paper, and had been incorporated since 1882 as the Statesman Publishing Company.

TEMPERANCE BANNER, 1872

TEXAS LAND REGISTER, 1872—weekly

COMMONWEALTH, 1873

G. W. Honey and S. A. Posey.<sup>27</sup>

STAATS-ZEITUNG, 1873

A German Republican paper.<sup>28</sup>

INTELLIGENCER-ECHO, 1874-75—weekly

EVENING NEWS, 1875-76—daily

## *The State Capitol and Newspapers*

GOLD DOLLAR (Negro), 1876

SUNDAY HERALD, 1876—weekly

It was about this time that a paper was published about Austin and Travis County, by J. T. Brackenridge, president of the First National Bank, in which he compared Mount Bonnell to Mount Olivet, "None who have ever seen and known, as was written of Florence, can forsake Austin."<sup>29</sup>

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL: 1877-81—weekly

This paper, on July 4, 1878, in Austin, offered to run ads concerning real estate, with no charge to be made until sales or leases were made.

TEXAS CAPITAL, 1877-81—weekly

AUSTIN WOCHENBLATT (German), 1879-86—weekly

WEEKLY REVIEW, 1879-81—weekly

AUSTIN DAILY REVIEW, 1880

AUSTIN DAILY DISPATCH, 1880-86

This became the Austin Evening Dispatch in 1887, and the Austin Daily Dispatch again in 1888-89.

TEXAS SIFTINGS, 1881-95—weekly

This new newspaper, with humor in it, was published from 1881 to 1884 in Austin, then it was moved to New York. John Armoy Knox and Alexander Edwin Sweet were the publishers, and were friends of O. Henry. Many think the later Rolling Stone was modeled along the same lines.

AUSTIN ARGUS, 1882-83, and 1894—weekly

EVENING NEWS, 1883—weekly

TEXAS VORWARTS (German), 1883-1914—weekly

FIRM FOUNDATION, 1884—weekly

DAILY CAPITAL, 1884

WEEKLY CAPITAL, 1884

DAILY SUN, 1885

AUSTIN RECORD, 1886-87<sup>30</sup>—weekly

Nat C. Henderson came to Austin with his Georgetown Record and published this paper at the Brueggerhoff Building.

EVENING CALL, 1886<sup>31</sup>

Published by M. C. Harris.

AUSTIN DAILY OPTIC, 1886<sup>32</sup>

L. E. Daniel published this political paper for a few months.

THE INDEPENDENT, 1886

The Austin Statesman commented on this paper on May 17, 1886, by saying, "Another paper in Austin, the Independent. May the Good Lord defend us."

AUSTIN PROHIBITIONIST, 1887—weekly

AUSTIN DAILY GLOBE, 1889

EVENING CAPITOLIAN, 1890-91

The Capitolian started on September 15, 1890.<sup>33</sup>

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EVENING CAPITOL, 1890-91

WEEKLY CAPITOLIAN, 1890-92

HERALD (Negro), 1890-1930—weekly

DAS WOCHENBLATT (German), 1891—weekly

AUSTIN EVENING NEWS, 1892-1903

ICONOCLAST, 1891

During the summer, the Iconoclast of W. C. Brann was published in Austin. Of it, the comment was made, "Its mission is to . . . make a good sized portion of the human race wish they had never seen the light of day."<sup>34</sup> Later, the comment was, "Many people are disposed to criticize the Iconoclast but it is the biggest advertisement Austin has had since the Texas Siftings moved to New York."<sup>35</sup> This paper was in Austin for only a short time, but readers realized Brann had a way with words, as evidenced by his definition of the word gall, which has been quoted many times.

TEXAS STATE DEMOCRAT, 1893—weekly      1897-1902—weekly

LONE STAR WEEKLY, 1893-1901—weekly

PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE, 1893-95—weekly

By this time, there were six weekly papers and eight monthly papers in Austin.<sup>36</sup>

AUSTIN REVIEW, 1894—weekly

THE ROLLING STONE, 1894

O. Henry started his paper on April 28, 1894.

RANGER, 1895—weekly

TEXAS POSTEN (Swedish), 1896—weekly

TEXAS REPUBLICAN, 1898

AUSTIN DAILY TRIBUNE, 1898-1915—daily



## CHAPTER XII

# *Civic Development*

### (Fire and Police Protection—Utilities)

The development of Travis County and its county seat, Austin, has been closely correlated. Austin was selected as the capital city of Texas in 1839, and Travis County was created by an act of Texas' Fourth Congress, effective January 25, 1840, "to define the boundaries of the County of Bastrop, and to establish the County of Travis."<sup>1</sup>

From its first founding, Travis County has been governed by the Commissioners Court as in other Texas counties, with the county formed into four commissioners' precincts, each of which elects a commissioner for four-year terms, which overlap. The term of the county judge is also four years, and he votes only if there is a tie vote.

The latitude of the court's power is reflected by a sampling of the minutes of the commissioners court meetings from 1839 to 1899, and the following excerpts show the court's functioning in the fields of finance, welfare, road building and maintenance, tax assessing and collecting, problems in the justice of the peace precincts, and such matters as county schools before the office of county school superintendent was created.<sup>2</sup>

John R. Slocomb's bill for \$150 for repairing "chairs, tables, balesters, desks," etc., which belonged to the senate chambers of the Republic of Texas, but were also used by the justice court of Travis County in early 1840. and a bill on May 12, 1840, for \$50 for making a coffin for.....Dalton.

On May 10, 1840, a bill from Alexander Russell's store for seven yards of blue domestic, \$14, and thread, \$1. And at the spring term of court, 1840, a bill by Sheriff Barton for four gallons of water at \$2.

In September, 1840, the decree that the county tax assessor be "allowed the same rates per cent for assessing the county tax as he is allowed by the state for assessing state tax."

Office rent of M. H. Beaty's store for offices and court, before the first courthouse was built, \$50 monthly rent.

A seal for the district commissioners of Travis County, \$100, in Texas money.

Nicholas McArthur, \$3 for desk built for the clerk of the county court,

## History of Travis County

and \$3 a day was paid the commissioners who attended court.

Sheriff and county treasurer designated to collect license fees and county taxes which in 1841 were 25% of the amount collected as republic taxes.

Fines of \$25 levied at July term of court, 1843, against H. B. Hill, W. D. Thomas and Noah Smithwick for not attending court.

Finance committee appointed uly, 1841. County was insolvent by 1844 (no taxes were collected from April, 1844, to January, 1846). In 1846, taxes collected were allocated for current county expenses, and county taxes were assessed at one-half the amount levied by the republic.

Beats, or precincts, were designated in 1846 for elections:

No. 1, all of Austin City, down to Walnut Creek, with William Cushing as presiding officer.

No. 2, commencing at Walnut Creek, down to Gilleland's, with election at home of R. Horn, and Wm. W. Horn presiding.

No. 3, beginning at Gilleland's creek and to the Travis Co. line, at house of J. J. Manor, with Manor presiding.

No. 4, all west of Colorado River, from lower County line West to river and election at town of Comanche at house of Isaac Casner, with Robert Montgomery presiding.

No. 5, all that district west of the Colorado River and within the bounds of Travis Co., to be known as San Marcos precinct, at house of Dr. E. Y. Merriman, with him presiding.

Financial condition improved by 1846, and claims were to be paid on a pro rata basis.

County taxes were still 50% of the amount of State taxes, and the county treasurer was allowed 8% on all money collected and disbursed.

Jury boxes were brought up to date to include new citizens after Texas became a state.

James P. McKinney was named surveyor in August, 1852, for the Travis-Hays County line, and in October, 1852, for the southwest corner of Travis County and the west corner of Bastrop County.

Rents for court and juries were routine, as were patrol appointments, repairs to the jail, payment of jurors' tickets.

Sheriff George W. Scott was fined \$10 for failure to attend court.

The map of Travis County by James R. Pace, district surveyor, was valued at \$75 in 1847 and \$300 by 1848.

Six election precincts were defined in 1850 with the City of Austin being No. 1.

Travis County's boundaries were designated in 1853, and election precincts increased to eight. Congress Avenue became the dividing line between precincts 1 and 2.

Another routine function of the court was the appointment of election judges, as in 1854 for the eight precincts and voting sites:

J. M. W. Hall, No. 1, his home

Taliaferro Bostick, No. 2, city marshal's office

Wm. W. Smith, No. 3, his home

Wm. R. Baker, No. 4, residence of James Baker, deceased

A. W. Miller, No. 5, his home

Wm. W. Hornsby, No. 6, his home

James Manor, No. 7, his home

Nicholas Land, No. 8, Nelson Merrill's home

Payment to Christian Wilhelm of \$26 for making a walnut book case for county clerk's office in 1854.

There were new election precincts in 1855 with an increase from 8 to 11.

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In the appointment of patrolmen, there was included "Half-Acre" district, Webber's Prairie.

In 1857, a new election precinct declared, called Spring Creek precinct No. 10, to have two justices of the peace and defined as the triangle of Travis County between Burnet County on the north, Hays County on the southeast, Gillespie County on the west, and Comal County on the south.

Jurors were defined as "house holders."

The cisterns as a source of water were always needing wooden tops (1851), cistern ropes in 1865, tops were provided again in 1870, and a stone fence was built around the court house for \$536.50. The court paid John Rabb \$60 for the stone steps built in front of the courthouse door.

Supplies bought by the court included candles, mattresses; \$18 for 90 yards of India Bagging for carpet for the court room; \$6 for a clock for the courthouse in 1859; 225 yards of cocoa matting bought from S. M. Swenson in 1858; 25 cords of three-foot wood at \$4 a cord; stove pipes; steel writing pens; putting irons on prisoners was termed "ironing prisoners" in payments by the court in 1861; water buckets and dippers; chimney repairs; a book to keep marriage records in.

The tax levy of 1848, authorized by the legislature, was 6¼ cents on \$100 value of property, with the same amount being collected as state taxes.

The court set the boundary between Travis and Williamson counties, and paid \$78 for running the 39-mile line.

By 1860, patrols were being appointed for Austin's eight wards.

The county assessor was ordered to collect a 12½-cent tax on each \$100 valuation, and a poll tax of 25 cents.

Precincts were decreased to number 10, with No. 8 and No. 9 being combined.

In 1862, tax levy raised by court to 25 cents on \$100 value.

The State Lunatic Asylum was being paid for board etc., for lunatics from Travis County.

Court directed the clerk to purchase a copy of Oldham's and White's Digest.

In 1863, S. Crosby, commissioner of the Land Office was paid \$50 for a county map for the surveyor's office.

During the Civil War, the court appointed F. T. Duffau as agent to buy 10 pounds of powder at \$2 a pound, 400 pounds of lead at \$2.50 per pound, and 30,000 percussion caps at \$10 per 1,000, to be sold and the money replaced in the county treasury. Each person was to receive ½ pound powder, 2 pounds lead, and 150 caps.

By 1865, distilleries were taxed by the court, \$100 plus 1½% of gross amount of sales, and a blind man, Wm. Drake, was exempt from the tax.

The court paid the sheriff for "feeding freedmen" in 1865.

By August, 1866, the court meetings were shown as "meeting of police court of Travis County. August 20, 1866."

Taxes rose and by June 1, 1867, there was a "capitation" tax of 50 cents for each male over 21 years, 7½ cents on each \$100 valuation of property, and businesses paid 1½% of the first thousand dollars of net and taxable income, and ¾ of 1% on the second thousand dollars, 1% on the third, fourth and fifth thousand dollars. Salaries were taxed (excepting soldiers) ¼ of 1% on \$600 or over annually.

In 1867, the court decreed the county attorney's annual salary to be \$250.

Estate matters were being handled by the court, and one case was held to sell corn and rent the farm.

The commissioners court was still under the direction of the military and termed "police court" in 1868. In 1869, the court acted under general order No. 41, issued by Brt. Major Gen. E. R. S. Canby, Fifth Military District, and Justice of the Peace precincts were defined to number five.

A hide and cattle inspector was named, .....Rafferty, on April 12, 1870, by Major General J. J. Reynolds and fees were set for inspections, etc.



## *History of Travis County*

In 1870, justice of the peace courts were directed to meet:

Beat No. 1 the second Monday of each month;

Beat No. 2 and 3, the first Saturday of each month;

Beat No. 4, the last Saturday of each month;

Beat No. 5, the third Saturday of each month.

The occupation tax levied again in 1870, included: all occupations, even peddlers on foot, \$5, with one horse, \$12.50; and with two horses or two yokes of oxen, \$25.

Ad valorem taxes for 1871 included 7½ cents for support and maintenance of lunatics, 12½ cents for the construction and maintenance of roads, and 13 1/3 cents for general purposes.

In 1871, the court decreed that the courthouse was not to be used for any purpose but county business.

The sheriff was directed to let out the labor of convicts confined in the county jail on public buildings of the county.

In 1871, nearly \$1,000 was allocated by the court for special police services at the congressional election.

By 1871-72, the county had a road and bridge fund and a general fund and five justice precincts.

The court, in 1872, allowed justices of the peace commissions on assessing taxes, \$2.75 was allowed for hangman's cape and scaffold, etc.

County Judge James W. Smith was directed by the military of reconstruction days to have his six-shooters sold, since they were being carried contrary to law.

Travis County officials have governed for nearly a century and a quarter at four courthouses—a log cabin from 1840 until 1855 (when they had a stone building), at the same site, Fourth and Guadalupe Streets until 1876; at Eleventh and Congress (called the Walton Building later) from 1876 to 1930, and at the present place at Tenth and Guadalupe Streets since 1931.

The city government has been operating at a historic site, the Capitol of the Republic of Texas, on the northeast corner of West Eighth and Colorado Streets. When Texas' capitol was built at the top of the Avenue in 1852, the city hall site became the property of the city; a brick building replaced the original city hall in 1908, and part of this building was incorporated in the new Municipal Building of 1938, at the same site and still used today to house city offices, although the police department moved to its own building at 700 East Seventh Street in 1953, where it serves the city in 1963 under Police Chief R. A. Miles and Deputy Police Chief R. B. Laws.

Austin as an incorporated city since its selection as the capital city in 1839, operated under its original charter with a governing group of the mayor and council, composed of aldermen, and designated districts or wards of the city were represented by a delegate, or alderman, on the city council.

By 1909, the city charter had been amended to provide for the commission mode of government, and by 1924 the citizens

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voted to adopt the council-manager form which actually was initiated in 1926.

Austin's economy has been bolstered by the federal and state offices located in the capital city and by the University of Texas, all cooperating without conflict in the city government.

Problems such as finance, taxes, police and fire protection, transportation, health, welfare, sanitation were handled by the council, in the same manner as the county phases were handled by the commissioners court of Travis County.

In the 1850's, seven city committees were shown for: cemetery, fire protection, finance and revenues, markets, police, printing, and streets and alleys.

During reconstruction regimes, Austin's mayor was appointed by military authorities or the governor. Leander Brown was appointed mayor by the military and served from November, 1867, to February, 1871. John W. Glenn, appointed by Gov. E. J. Davis, served from February 1, 1871, to November 28, 1872. In 1873, T. B. Wheeler was elected mayor.

In April, 1873, the city limits were amended and expanded, and the city was incorporated and divided into ten wards, to be defined by the city council, who were to be elected on the first Monday in November, 1873, and every two years thereafter.<sup>3</sup>

In 1873, the mayor had the same jurisdiction as a justice of the peace, and among other duties, could perform marriage rites. The city had control of a workhouse in Travis County, and anyone who failed to pay a fine, worked, not to exceed sixty days for any crime. The prisoner worked ten hours per day, earning not more than \$1 daily to pay his fine.

In 1874, houses were numbered and city officials consisted of the mayor, board of aldermen, marshal, attorney, treasurer, assessor and collector of taxes, and city engineer, all elected for two year terms, and the city clerk was appointed by the mayor.

By 1877, annual salaries were: Mayor, \$2,000; city attorney, \$600, with extra fees for cases; city marshal, \$1,800; city treasurer, \$600; city clerk, \$1,500; and city engineer, \$300. The city assessor and collector was allowed 2% on all assessments and 2% on all collections. Taxes were levied at the rate of 1% annually on city property, and there was a board of appraisers and equalization even then. The market master and health inspector were each paid \$600 annually; city physician, \$300; city

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sexton, \$500; police, \$690, plus fees.

Commissions handled all phases of city operations, as shown by appointments of the city council at its meeting on January 6, 1888:

Street, alley and bridge commission: Platt, Wilson, Haigler.  
Finance and Revenue commission: DeGress, Wortham, Odell.  
Public Parks: Brush, Fisher, Townsend.  
Fire Department: Jones, Assman, Schneider.  
Police Commission: Graham, Campbell, Metz.  
Markets: Boland, Jones, Assman.  
Sanitation and Sewers: Haigler, Townsend, Fisher.  
City Hospital: Wilson, Pillow, Linn.

During the days of the aldermen in Austin, representing wards, Tenth Ward was a powerful political area; long after it became Seventh Ward, it retained the title and traditions of old Tenth Ward.

By May 1, 1909, with the commission form of government, Austin became the thirteenth city in the United States to accept this plan. In 1924, after an election, the city manager program replaced the commission plan and on July 1, 1926, Austin adopted it.

### COURTS

The history of the courts of Austin and Travis County dates back to the earliest days of local history. Judges of the 53rd, 98th, and 126th District Courts in the county are elected for four-year terms, as are the district attorney and clerk.

Beside the county courts, there are the justice of the peace courts for the precincts, which function in certain civil cases, and which were originally established when the county seat was not so easily available.

Representatives to the Texas legislature are elected for two-year terms, and senators for four years. Also elected are a chief justice and two associate justices of the Court of Civil Appeals for the Third Supreme Judicial District, in which Travis County is located. For its national representatives, Travis County is part of the Tenth Congressional District.

In Travis County, the county court decrees in probate matters and the court at law in civil and criminal matters.

The corporation court in Austin (and Manor at this time) rules in cases of criminal offenses against city ordinances, and cooperates with the justice of the peace courts in other cases



in the city, although the corporation courts do not rule in civil cases. The judge in the municipal court is the only judge not elected, and he is appointed.

The courts of Austin and Travis County are expanded in this century, and have been discussed in booklets by the Institute of Public Affairs, the University of Texas, Stuart A. MacCorkle, Director, and particularly in "Government in Metropolitan Austin," by John Gillespie, 1956.

Austin's elections are conducted in the odd years and county elections in even years. A poll tax payment of \$1.75 is a requirement for voting, and like the other taxes levied by the city and county, has varied in the past, especially during the Civil War years.

The District Court of Travis County had its first meeting at the May term, 1840, in the senate chamber at the capitol (then at Eighth and Colorado Streets), with Judge John T. Mills of the Third Judicial District presiding, and B. D. Basford, clerk, and Wayne Barton, sheriff. The following judges succeeded:

Judge R. E. B. Baylor from spring term, 1841, until fall term, 1846 (3rd Judicial District)

Judge William E. Jones, 1846-52 (2nd Judicial District)

Judge John Hancock, 1852-55 (2nd Judicial District)

Judge Thos. H. Duval, 1855-57 (2nd Judicial District)

Judge Alexander W. Terrell, 1857-62 (2nd Judicial District)

Judge Ben F. Carter elected Aug. 1863, but died at Gettysburg July 3, 1863, before he could serve (2nd Judicial District)

Judge A. D. McGinnis, 1864- (2nd Judicial District)

Judge I. B. McFarland, 1865-66 (2nd Judicial District)

Judge John Ireland, 1866-68 (2nd Judicial District)

Judge L. L. Thornton, 1868-69 (2nd Judicial District)

Under general order No. 36 of Maj. Gen. E. R. S. Canby, commander of the Fifth Military District, dated February 13, 1869, the special term of the district court of Travis County was held March 1, 1869, at the Travis County courthouse, with W. P. Bacon of the Eleventh Judicial District presiding, assisted by Sheriff R. Platt and Clerk Frank Brown. The regular spring terms of court were suspended and special terms were held on the first Monday of March, 1869, and for ten years.

Presiding were:

Judge J. P. Richardson, 1870-76 (27th Judicial District)

Judge E. B. Turner, 1876-80 (16th Judicial District)

Judge A. S. Walker, 1880-87 (16th Judicial District)

Judge John C. Townes, 1887-88 (16th Judicial District)

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Judge Wm. Mercer Key, 1888-92 (16th Judicial District)  
Judge Thos. B. Cochran, 1892 (26th Judicial District)  
Judge James H. Robertson, 1892-95 (53rd Judicial District)  
Judge Frank G. Morris, 1893-94 (26th Judicial District)  
1895-1902 (53rd Judicial District)  
Judge R. E. Brooks, 1895-01 (26th Judicial District)  
Clerks of the district court of Travis County were:

1840—B. D. Basford  
1850—John M. Costley  
1854—Frank Brown  
1870—A. R. Morris  
1874—Frank Brown  
1876-82—E. Hallman  
1882-1906—James P. Hart

### POLICE PROTECTION

In the field of police protection, there has been close cooperation between the city police and the sheriff, who controlled the county area. Travis County's first sheriff in 1840, was Wayne Barton. The principal problem of protection was from Indian attacks. When forewarned, the settlers gathered in groups and often pursued the Indians. One citizen, H. Mollhausen, offered to provide protection for Austin with a cannon up at the president's hill and a constant watch of men including himself, a former officer of the Prussian artillery. Another, William W. Thompson, was advertising his horse yards as thief proof. The Austin City Gazette of February 18, 1841, mentioned the ordinance for "preserving public tranquility." In 1841, the marshal was instructed to take care of a well dug on Lot 1, Block 59, which was declared a public nuisance.<sup>4</sup> This must not have been the well that Big Foot Wallace dug, because it was on Congress Avenue. In the days of the republic, soldiers were stationed at the arsenal (present Palm School location), and these soldiers were requesting their pay, or some clothes.<sup>5</sup> In 1842, when there was a threat of attack by Mexicans, the government group left Austin, a citizens committee was organized to keep the archives, so they would not be removed to Houston. During this time, the citizens could not get ammunition from Captain Sutton at the arsenal because no requisition forms were available, so they simply took over the arsenal and ammunition.

At the commissioners court meeting of April 13, 1840, there was discussion of a jail to be built for Travis County, with payment to be made January 1, 1841, but at the meeting of June

22, this was postponed.

Late in 1846, there were about 130 Mormons out at the falls of the Colorado River, which were named for them.<sup>6</sup> This was timely for Travis County and Austin, because plans were under way for the new jail, which they built.<sup>7</sup>

In January, 1847, the court appointed Thomas William Ward, James G. Swisher, John J. Grumbles, and Abner H. Cook, to plan the new jail and to "purchase timbered land for it," with \$1,800 being appropriated.<sup>8</sup>

Before Anson Jones relinquished his role as president of the republic, a law was passed providing that Travis County was to have fifteen rangers, led by a lieutenant under Captain John C. Hays.<sup>9</sup>

After Texas became a state, Camp Austin on the Colorado River became a military base; buildings were erected; supplies and stores were brought in; and Col. Wm. Selby Harney was commander until about 1851. General Albert Sidney Johnston was paymaster for the military during the first days of statehood.

During 1849, General Harney bought Lamar's 68 acres and the home there became headquarters for military men. Harney, while head of the 8th military district in Austin, had his home north of the present university.<sup>10</sup>

During the early 1850's, temperance was the theme of law enforcement, in an effort to make saloons peaceable places and to discourage gaming. When the district court met in spring, 1858, over three hundred indictments resulted, mainly for gaming and betting. By the start of the Civil War, saloons and gambling were more carefully controlled.

The commissioners court decreed that the tax for 1854-55 be set aside for the county, in accordance with an act of the legislature of January 27, 1854, as a special fund for building the courthouse and jail.

The first courthouse was built in 1856, two stories tall, with the jail in back. It was located at Fourth and Guadalupe Streets. Also in 1856, a law was passed by which the city was given control of Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12 in Block 98 for three years; no fee was to be charged; the provision was made that the city construct a city hall and market house there to be used by the city, or at the end of three years, the land was to revert to the



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General Land Office. Thus, the city government is housed at this location. In the trade, the city also moved to the new location the market house which had been at Trinity and Fifth Streets.<sup>11</sup>

In October, 1858, there was a fight between Benjamin Thompson and James Smith, in which Smith was shot. Thompson was acquitted in Judge Calhoun's court.<sup>12</sup> Evidently, this was the Ben Thompson, later marshal, who was about 16 years old in 1858.

By November, 1865, Governor Hamilton directed by proclamation that the chief, or captain of police, in each county be appointed by the chief justice, and that this police officer be provided county funds for not more than two men as enforcement officers.

In June, 1866, the city officials were asking for volunteer policemen. Ziller's Building on Pecan Street was in 1866 the office of the military who ruled during reconstruction days. There were rules against carrying arms, selling liquor after 9 p.m.; saloons were shut on Sundays. Feelings were more relaxed between the citizens and soldiers stationed in Austin after Christmas, 1865, when the military band, playing at a concert in the 4th ward, evidently with the Christmas spirit, surprised the citizens by playing "Dixie."

However, under the Reconstruction Act of March 2, 1867, new city officials were named by the military rulers. The turbulent times were reflected by the marshal's being changed three times, from James McQuire to John Caulfield to W. F. Farr, between 1868 and 1870.

1870 was the year when the state police of post Civil War days were a shock to the people. The Daily Austin Republican of October 31, 1870, said, "The state guard is to guard the state police; the state police is to watch over the militia; the militia is to protect General Parsons; General Parsons is to carry the side arms of the Governor, etc."

In January, 1868, the county commissioners court levied an extra tax of 7½ cents for the purpose of building a courthouse and jail.

Governor Davis named the city officials on January 31, 1871, and included two Negroes as aldermen, and a Negro policeman. Austin's seven policemen received a raise from \$50 to

\$65 monthly. Serving on the police force in 1872-73 were Joseph Bitter, John Carmody, Christian Fisher, G. W. Fleming, John Goodman (colored), and Charles Wilburn (colored).

Under the city's charter in 1874 the chief of police or his deputy was to make two rounds daily, and one each night after midnight to check policemen on their beats. The menace of the military of post-war years was gone by then. The chief of police was also in charge of streets, alleys and bridges, and of the fire cisterns, water plugs; he was responsible for the fire cisterns being full of water for fires, and to see that they were not used for watering horses, etc. There were many new laws for the police to enforce. Burning effigies was a must not, as was appearance in public in dress of the other sex. No cattle were allowed on streets, except cows.

When a city health physician was appointed by the mayor and city council in 1874, it became the duty also of the chief of police to see that health and sanitary regulations were enforced.

The official records of the Austin city council proceedings reveal many new ordinances during this period of the 1870's that were in the province of the police department. There was an ordinance against disorderly houses, such as a "fandango house."

Misdemeanors also included beating drums; killing birds, bulls, bears; prize fights; flying kites, where they might frighten horses. No swimming or bathing in the river, as designated; horses were not to be raced on Sundays; no parades on that day, nor was baseball permitted between nine and four o'clock on Sunday. Driving faster than a slow trot on the Avenue and Pecan Street was prohibited with a fine from \$5 to \$100 as a penalty.

Fishing rules prohibited dragging, hauling, placing or using any fish net, seine, trap, etc., for catching fish except by pole, hook and line, in the Colorado River within the limits of the city.

There was a leash law even then, for goats, horses, jacks, jennets, mules, sheep (excepting milch cows). One watch dog was allowed free of tax; others were taxed. A fee was required to put up posters; as now, no liquor around election sites, and persons who owned pigeons in the city limits, could not let them run loose. Deadly weapons prohibited in the city included "pistol, dirk, dagger, sling shot, sward-cane, spear, brass knuckles, bowie knife." Under a law passed June 6, 1878, it was unlawful

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to capture, destroy or kill a mockingbird, or other native singing bird in the city limits, or to rob or ruin its nest.

By 1878, the city marshal was elected and was termed ex-officio chief of police. The area south of Pine Street and east of Waller Creek became the industrial district, when stores of kerosene and such were consigned to that section. It was also unlawful to drive droves of animals through Congress Avenue or Pecan Street without drovers to control them.

There was good news for the police, along with all the new rules,—raises in salary up to \$75 monthly or to \$90 for mounties. In 1875, the city officials raised the marshal's salary to \$1,800 annually. They were allowed \$1 for each arrest, only from 1874 on this fee went into the city treasury instead of into their pockets, as previously.

By 1874, there was criticism of the inconvenience of the courthouse location at Fourth and Guadalupe Streets, so court business was carried on at the southeast corner of Block 70, called the Swisher Hotel corner. In March, 1875, Travis County courts authorized the construction of a new courthouse, jail, and jailer's residence. This courthouse, at Eleventh and Congress, and the jail and residence back of it, were completed in 1876; the cost reached around \$200,000, and it served Travis County until the present courthouse was constructed.

In 1877, the police station was at the corner of Bois d'Arc and Colorado Streets, and Alexander Deny was station keeper. The county jail was at the corner of Mesquite and Mulberry Streets, and Albert Nichols was jailer.

The police department in 1879 consisted of nine policemen, one at the office, one mountie on the streets at night, one to guard prisoners, and the rest were patrolmen. Among the new rules in 1879 was that every policeman have a whistle, and citizens could have them too; police were to go to the assistance of anyone blowing a whistle, and there was a fine for blowing that whistle unnecessarily. Ben Thompson was again in the news after a fight at the Capitol Theatre on Christmas night, 1876, with the owner, Mark Wilson, over firecrackers reputedly tossed by Jim Burdett; guns were going soon and Wilson was shot. The town was tense during the funeral; when the citizens learned that Wilson had requested police protection, the Daily Democratic Statesman of December 29, 1876, asked, "how that



other policeman sent with Allen, amused himself all the time the fight was progressing, and what disposition he made of his darling self afterwards." In the murder trial that followed, Ben Thompson and Jim Burdett were acquitted.<sup>13</sup>

In 1881, Ben Thompson was showing a pistol that was a gift to him from Buffalo Bill. About a month later, Thompson's mother, Mrs. Mary Ann Thompson, was buried from the Episcopal Church with Bishop Gregg conducting the services. This was the time of Thompson's heyday in Austin, when he was wearing a big badge with a star on it and the words, "City Marshal." The papers were praising him, and he had one of the first telephones in Austin.

The City Band serenaded the mayor and Ben Thompson that summer at their homes, and Thompson was presented with a walnut desk and chair. In 1882 complaints came that six policemen to patrol the streets were not enough.

Serving under Marshal H. B. Lee from 1883 to 1885 were Sergeant John Chenneville, two mounties, one policeman in charge of chain gang, and seven patrolmen, two of whom were colored. There were 24 aldermen in Austin in 1883, and still too few policemen, and there was comment that it was easier to find an alderman than a policeman.

Then news came to Austin that Ben Thompson had been shot in San Antonio. It was termed a revenge killing, dating back to the slaying of Jack Harris by Thompson in San Antonio in August, 1882, at a theatre. Thompson was warned to stay away from San Antonio, after the trial was held acquitting him. When Thompson was released and returned to Austin, after being defended by W. M. Buck Walton, with George Pendexter, and John A. and N. O. Green, the town turned out to welcome him back, at the I and G N depot, including county and city officials. Thompson took a hack to his home, but the crowd unharnessed the horse, and pulled him in his hack up the Avenue to the capitol while a band played, according to a story in the San Antonio Express, on September 6, 1931.

So, for a time Thompson avoided San Antonio. He was reported to have commented at the Iron Front Saloon in Austin in 1884, that Joe Foster had invited him to come back to the theatre in San Antonio, and visit, but as Thompson said, "They do not catch me in that trap. I know if I were to go into that

place, it would be my graveyard.”<sup>14</sup>

Then, King Fisher, sheriff of Uvalde County, who reputedly had been hired by the cattlemen to rid the county of rustlers, came to Austin to close his accounts as sheriff and tax collector of Uvalde County, on a day in 1884, and he and Thompson decided to go to San Antonio and see Foster and make peace. Ada Gray had been playing in Austin on the night of March 8, and Thompson had seen her; she was to play in San Antonio in “Lady Audley’s Secret” on the night of March 10, and they wanted to see her, so they took the train to San Antonio, and went to the Vaudeville Theatre in San Antonio, where they met Billy Simms, formerly of Austin, who had worked as a printer’s devil with Thompson.

Simms was a partner of Jack Harris and Joe Foster; and after a drink with Simms at the bar, they went upstairs to the balcony, where Joe Foster shot Thompson (age 41), and King Fisher (age 39), and Foster died too, later, from bullet wounds.

Bill Thompson, Ben’s brother, was in San Antonio, and came home with the body, and Ben was buried on March 12 at three o’clock from his home near the University, with Dr. Smoot as the minister at the services. He left a wife and three children, and again the town turned out,—there were sixty-two vehicles in the procession.<sup>15</sup>

Colonel William M. Walton, his old friend, soon finished his story of Ben Thompson, with several hundred copies to be available by April 24. The tombstone of Ben Thompson in Oakwood Cemetery shows his birth date in Knottingly, England, as November 11, 1842, and his death on March 11, 1884, making him forty-one years and four months old. In his way, he found fame for himself; and he had the loyalty of those who liked him in life; and those who disliked him, detested him.

Protection in Austin and Travis County was furthered when the Capital Detective Association was chartered on September 17, 1884, at 723 Congress, with J. G. Martin as chief.

From 1885 to 1888, Marshal James E. Lucy’s staff included one detective, one sergeant, three mounties, one policeman in charge of chain gang, and eight patrolmen. There were ten patrolmen by 1891. Under the charter and revised ordinances of the City of Austin which were adopted May 17, 1886, uniforms of the police force were navy blue with a white cord seam

on the pants, and number on the cap. Police were expected to be on hand at fires, when the alarm was sounded by the bell at city hall, with about twelve quick taps, a pause, and then the number of the ward.

By 1895, there were seven mounties, seven patrolmen, and John Schneider was bridge master. By 1898, only five mounties and seven patrolmen were shown. The first uniforms of the mounties were made by William Frank Laws (father of today's deputy police chief R. B. Laws), who, with Ed Craven after the turn of the century, had a "pantatorium," or men's tailor and cleaning and pressing shop, in Austin.

In January, 1888, policemen were William Dornwell, H. Montgomery, John Kennerly, J. W. Bracken, E. C. Folwell, H. G. Madison, J. L. Rundell, J. W. Gassaway, W. T. Jones, J. R. Connor, L. C. Lock, R. D. Bell, J. D. Platt, Louis Morris, P. J. Plumb, W. Allen, Al Musgrove, William Davis, and serving as mountie was John Chenneville.

O. Henry was facetious on April 27, 1895, in his paper, the *Rolling Stone*: "I behooves the bloody first ward to stir its stumps if it wishes to keep the belt for being a tough locality. East Pecan and the vicinity, once the center of business, where the mild-eyed granger traded eggs and butter for delusive red calico, and drank his red lemonade in peace, has now risen up and declared itself bold, bad, and hard to curry. Loafing, gambling, fighting and drinking has invaded this Arcadian spot. Let us pass some more laws against this kind of thing, and then let it go on as usual."

From 1888 to 1900, Robert Emmett White served as sheriff, and Austin was to know all of his sons later: John Dudley White, a Texas ranger and customs officer; Thomas Bruce White, also a ranger, and later at Leavenworth Penitentiary as warden, and chairman of the Texas Pardon Board; Crockett Coleman White, whom many of Austin today knew as Coley White, deputy sheriff and sheriff of Travis County, and prohibition agent, too; and James Campbell White, a Texas ranger and later one of Austin's mounties and an FBI agent, whom our fathers called Doc when he served Austin later in the 1900's.

Another who remembers Austin in late 1899, is Abe Shaw, the town's last living blacksmith, who knew the policemen and firemen and their horses. His anvil and forge are relics of an era



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ended. He spent sixty years of blacksmithing in the capital city, and before that his father had been a blacksmith next to the livery stable on East Seventh Street.

His career in Austin of shoeing horses, has made him familiar with famous, and infamous people; Governor Pease was his customer; he has known the draft horses of the beer company; and the mules that pulled those first mule-drawn cars. The fire department was his best customer, and he kept their horses in the finest form, and then the race horses that were in Austin then, and the police department with its mounties; he knew their horses, and he knew them, Doc White, Jim Starr, Coley White, Jake Platt, and others.

They all came to his shop—Elisabet Ney with her fast horse and gig—O. Henry with his carriage for a date—the law makers and the law breakers, with their fast horses.

He remembered well the last day of that century; it was 1899, and the last day of the year was Sunday, and over in East Austin, which was then Austin's most popular residential area, many of the Austin people were gathered at the East Austin fire hall, for their get-together, as they always did on late Sunday. And as always, they were joined by McNamara's band, composed of the McNamara boys, Will, Pat, and Joe, and their sister, Mary McNamara, and this family group played nostalgic tunes for the folks, because it was not only New Year's eve, but it was the last day of the last year of that nineteenth century. And as always at those Sunday gatherings, they stood up and swung into my Ole Kentucky Home, as a tribute to a teen-age boy among them, Jim Starr, of whom Abe Shaw has said, "he was born and bred in Ole Kentucky, but Texas took him the rest of the trail."

And then they played Auld Lang Syne, and in the background was Abe Shaw, who watched, and Doc White, later lawman, and all Austin knew that those auld acquaintances are not forgot, but are always brought to mind in these stories of Austin, Texas' capital city, and the area around it. Always memorable will be those men who came up Webberville way to Waterloo in those adolescent days of Austin, and knew the town and county when it was young.

### FIRE PROTECTION

The need for fire protection was seen as soon as the city was started. In November, 1839, when James Burke's public

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library, at Bois d'Arc and Congress Avenue, burned there was "no fire company, no engine nor hooks, ladders, nor buckets."<sup>16</sup> Soon, water was being supplied from a well dug on Lot 1, Block 59.<sup>17</sup>

In December, 1841, Richard Bullock directed a fire protection group, as authorized by the city on October 21, when a fire group was named for Austin, including Bullock, G. M. Dolson, Joshua Holden, Timothy McKane, R. Prentiss, William Stark, and Sam Whiting.<sup>18</sup>

Protection was a recurring problem; there was a fire at the Thompson Hotel, at the corner of Neches and Hickory Streets, when the owner, Francis Dieterich, lost about \$3,500 in March, 1847.<sup>19</sup>

Fire protection was again in the news in 1852, after the fire at Rev. G. G. Baggerly's school, and on January 10, the Gazette was agitating, "Can't the citizens organize a fire company?"

In 1854, there was a cedar brake fire west of Austin between Barton and Bull Creeks, damaging fence rails of A. J. Hamilton, the stables and horses of Sam Stone, and cattle and cordwood of Capt. Grumbles at Barton's. In late December, 1855, citizens were conscious again of the need for protection when a fire burned Bengener's Boot Shop, Jones' Blacksmith Shop, and Fisk and Bowers' Store.

It was 1858 when plans for protection resulted in Austin's first fire company after John T. Miller's livery stable burned; the citizens had reached the saturation point on the subject of fire protection, so they met to organize a fire company. Up to this time they had been using a small garden hand engine owned by General Harney, USA, whose headquarters were located on the present site of the Driskill residence in North Austin.

In August John Bremond, Sr. and William C. Walsh met with other business men to end the era of fighting fires with the bucket brigade. They met under an old oak tree where the Piccadilly Cafeteria is in 1963, at the northeast corner of Congress Avenue and Hickory Street. Bremond, formerly a fireman in New York, who knew drill routines and equipment, and Walsh aided in organizing and chartering Austin Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. The uniforms, ordered from New York, consisted of black pants, black patent leather belts, red shirts with H and L No. 1 across the front, blue hats and white gloves. John

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T. Brown, a local blacksmith, constructed Austin's first fire truck in 1858. The truck was hand drawn with ropes, and wooden buckets were used at first, but later replaced by leather buckets. Their regular meeting place was Peck's Hall (Driskill corner), and the truck was kept in the blacksmith shop back of it on East Bois d'Arc Street. This group of men sent more than one hundred volunteers to the Civil War. Many Austin families today, will recognize their forefathers among those first fire-fighters:

Joe Amstead, Ed Anderson, W. W. Archer, George P. Assman, G. A. Bahn, Henry Bastian, George Bengener, Charles W. Besserer, Louis Blumentritt, H. Bohn, J. S. Bowles, Charles Bozeth, Eugene Bremond, Henry Browne, R. Bulian, J. H. Burke, Henry Burkhardt, D. Casey, J. H. Choser, Ed Christian, H. E. Cohen, Robert Cotter, M. S. Culver, Philip Dee, William A. Dixon, Albert and Charles Domschke, F. C. Eanes, Charles Eklund, P. M. Elgin, Louis A. Fellman, Louis Fielding, John Flattery, W. H. Fletcher, W. P. Ford, Louis Freitag, Frank Froelisch, Frank Fruth, R. A. Gillis, L. N. Goldbeck, Joe Goodman, R. S. Grant, William F. Greene, Arten Gruber, Ed Grueller, R. E. Haigler, Arthur Hardy, Ben Hendricks, J. L. Hearn, T. D. Hearn, Walter Hearn, John and Louis Hillebrand, Adolph Hirsch, P. L. Hopkins, W. C. Hornberger, John O. Johnson, John Jones, H. N. Jurgenson, Jr., George Keller, John Kelly, William Kelly, A. Kempen, Charles Kluge, Charles Kuse, Robert J. and W. J. Lambert, H. T. Lowry, Max Lungkwitz, Jacob Lutz, H. Melasky, Joe and P. L. Meyer, C. S. Metz, H. M. Metz, N. B. Metz, J. P. Michael, Al Musgrove, O. E. Neumann, Charles Orhndorf, A. W. Orr, George W. Paschal, George Passman, F. Petmecky, R. Prade, C. B. Pratt, A. Pressler, Leslie Price, Adolph Preuss, P. M. Quist, Fritz Reichmann, Theo Reissner, J. Renner, J. H. Robinson, Charles Rust, W. A. Salge, Robert Schieffer, Albert and J. P. Schneider, Ed and P. W. Schroeder, Max Schuelke, A. Schutze, J. Schutze, Jr., Charles Schurr, Franklin Seekatz, Joseph Shepherd, S. F. Smith, Charles Southgate, Charles T. Sterzing, O. Stolley, W. J. Sutor, H. Thompson, A. von Rosenberg, C. von Rosenberg, E. von Rosenberg, H. H. Voss, William C. Walsh, C. Wilhelm, Ferd Wilhelm, A. Wilke, D. M. Wilson, W. Winert, Charles N. Winner, D. B. Withers, A. J. Zilker, A. Ziller, Henry Ziller, W. Ziller.

In 1860, the need for more fire protection arose again when the Glasscock and Millican mill burned at the foot of Colorado Street, on the river. The loss in this fire included woodwork and millwork for the new Insane Asylum being built. By July, 1860, there were over 25 fires in Austin, and everyone assumed it was arson. In 1861, the home of Captain W. Rust, east of capitol square, was destroyed and the State Gazette of May 4, 1861, commented on the efficiency of the hook and ladder company.

The volunteer firemen of the years to 1899 always had places in parades on San Jacinto Day and they had horse races among their groups. Dances were held to raise funds for equipment, and the later fire hall dances became a tradition in Austin.



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For the first time, Austin's city government appointed a fire chief, C. F. Millett, in 1866, who served three years.

Then cisterns were dug by the fire fighters to furnish water for fires. These were located at: Sixth and Guadalupe Streets; on Red River between Ninth and Tenth Streets; near the Union Depot; Phil Hatzfeld's corner at Congress and Fifth Street; Congress and Seventh; Chiles Drug Store at Sixth and Congress; Congress and Tenth Street; Houghton and Robinson's corner at Congress and Eighth Streets.

On February 3, 1866, a fire destroyed a three-story building housing a store and Masonic and Odd Fellows Lodge, with loss of \$25,000. During 1867-68, the fire cisterns still stood, but the fire group was trying out a new water hose during the fall of 1868, giving an exhibition at the Avenue Hotel, using water from the cistern at the corner of Eighth and Congress, shooting sprays of water up the building. Spectators watched in amazement and amusement, then the horses stampeded and ended the show.

From 1858 to 1868, there was only one fire company, then Washington Fire Engine Company No. 1 organized as fire fighters. This group was enthusiastic too; they gave a benefit concert and made \$700, enabling them to buy the first fire engine.

In 1868, Washington Fire Engine Company met in a small building west of the present Scarbrough Building, which became their engine house; later they had a rock building between Sixth and Seventh Streets on the east side of Brazos Street, then at the south alley in the first block east of the Avenue. In 1882, they were in a building on East Seventh Street, south of Miller's Stable, until this site became part of the Driskill Hotel in 1885. This company was called the "kid-glove" company, because so many moneyed men were in it. Their equipment included a hand engine for pumping water out of the city cisterns, and this engine was hand pulled by the company's men. This company later had its own building between Seventh and Eighth Streets on Brazos, on the west side.

Their roster included: W. B. Abadie, R. S. Bacon, J. A. Bartosh, Fred Boutell, Eugene Bremond, John Bremond, Gus Bruck, William Brueggerhoff, George Brush, Oliver Brush, W. B. Brush, O. B. Caldwell, R. E. Carrington, R. M. Castleman, W. A. Cato, A. Cherico, E. S. Cohen, L. W. Collins, Joseph A. Costa, A. H. Crow, E. F. Cullen, B. H. Davis, C. F. Drake, E. T. Eggleston, L. E. Edwards, George Fiegel, S. Friedberger, G. W. Glasscock, F. W. Glenn, L. N. Goldbeck, Lewis Hancock, J. W. Hannig, N. Hanson, Robert L. Harrelson, E. B. Haynie, H. B. Hillyer, John H. Houghton, I. V. Jones, Jake Leser, George W. Littlefield, M. M. Long, M. M.

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McGinnis, L. Maas, A. S. Mair, G. R. Macomber, Victor Mather, H. Melaskey, C. M. Miller, K. C. Miller, J. M. Miller, O. L. Miller, Monroe Miller, C. F. Millett, H. W. Moeller, L. W. Moses, J. A. Nagle, J. H. Nelson, A. H. Neumann, J. F. Oatman, W. J. Oliphant, R. Paschall, G. W. Patterson, E. Perry, R. R. Pierson, F. Pressler, A. S. Roberts, G. L. Robertson, Alfred H. Robinson, Alonzo Robinson, J. H. Robinson, J. H. Robinson, Jr., E. E. Ruffini, R. S. Rust, W. A. Ryan, O. Sandahl, E. Sanders, L. Schoolherr, Alfred Smith, William Stelfox, F. Sterzing, T. S. Thompson, Joe J. Walker, John A. Wayland, B. C. Wells, Don Wilson, Jess Wilson, G. B. Zimbleman.<sup>20</sup>

On June 8, 1868, three stores owned by R. S. Bacon, B. Radkey, and Souter and Hirschfield were burned, with a loss of \$20,000. In 1871, the suggestion was made that the city purchase draft horses to pull the fire engines, instead of using manpower, and firemen tried out their new steam engine at Shoal Creek, forcing water up three pipes into the hose and up to the sky.

1871 saw more organizations for fire protection; Colorado Fire Company No. 2, which had started on May 1, 1870, was chartered October 16, 1871, and men whose names were known with the company were:

R. V. Bandy, J. S. Barnard, H. Bluitt, Fred Bohn, C. Bollman, J. A. Bornefield, William Brennen, Otto Brinkmann, Fred Brower, W. R. Brown, M. Butler, George Calhoun, T. J. Campbell, Ed Casey, John C. Coleman, Dennis Corwin, W. H. Cullen, John A. Cunningham, C. W. Daniel, J. H. Daniel, Nelson Davis, W. B. Davis, A. Deats, William C. Denny, Bryant Dickens, John Donovan, John Dowell, John M. Durst, A. J. Eilers, W. G. Eyres, E. B. Falwell, George Fiegel, A. Frank, J. F. Fricke, Jeff Gilbert, A. Glowotz, Wm. F. Green, William Hanke, D. S. Harper, Lewis Hearn, J. F. Herbert, E. T. Houston, George Isherwood, F. M. Kain, John P. Kirk, H. Grooms Lee, W. H. Ledwith, T. M. Low, Dunc McInnis, B. F. Marshall, C. J. Miller, John A. Miller, C. F. Millett, B. S. Moore, James Moore, S. K. Morley, John Morris, C. E. Moses, August Nitzby, Ed Paggi, Albert Peterson, John R. Peterson, Rad Platt, R. S. Plumb, W. T. Plumb, J. Quist, J. D. Randolph, F. Raven, P. H. Ribbeck, C. M. Schutze, Lawrence Sellers, S. S. Simon, T. D. Smith, H. C. Still, Joseph Stumpf, Theo Sublett, John C. Wallace, Joe Webb, William Wolf, C. Woodward.

This company, disbanded in 1916, operated with a hand engine at first, later with a steam engine, and in 1882 was a hose company. They were in a building on East Seventh Street until 1885 when they moved to West Eighth Street.

The city passed an ordinance on March 3, 1874, regulating the fire department, complete with chief, assistant chief, recorder, fire police and commissioners.

There was a fire in October, 1874, at Ben Thompson's drug storehouse, in back of the Avenue Hotel. Central Engine Company No. 3 organized in 1874 and lasted until 1877. This company was at East Avenue and Fourth Street.

Hope Hook and Ladder Co. No. 2, newly organized in 1875,

was parading a new fire truck made in Austin by Austinites. This company lasted about five years and met at Colorado and Fourth Streets. Members included Ben Thompson, E. Albrecht, A. Burland, Jim Burland, C. Cuneo, Dave Freedman, Frank Litis, John Raggio, and Jack O'Brien. This company disbanded in 1882.

In 1875, the establishment of a water system, by the city water company, ended the need for water cisterns. The pumps were located at the river near where present fire drills are held.

Austin in 1877 knew progress in fire protection with three steam engines and two hook and ladder trucks. In 1878, when Hope Fire Company No. 2 had a contest with a Waco fire company, Austin celebrated its victory with a torch parade and champagne at a hall over Charles Cortissoz' Saloon.<sup>21</sup>

And this was probably the first time that a company used its horses and its own truck as a hearse, when a fireman died in action, as did E. T. Deats on May 20, 1878, after being hurt by a falling wall.<sup>22</sup>

Another company, Protection Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, was formed on May 23, 1878, and was changed on May 3, 1887, to Protection Hose Company. They had their hall on Lavaca Street, and when it burned in 1879, they had a tent site near Turner's Hall (about Eighteenth and Lavaca Streets), and then rebuilt at the old location on the west side of Lavaca Street.

Austin men associated with this group were:

W. A. Achilles, August Anderson, Gus Anderson, J. W. Armstrong, E. Bache, E. C. Barth, H. Bastian, Dr. H. E. Baxter, Fred Becker, R. A. Blandford, Louis Boerner, C. Byrne, J. E. Conrad, S. H. Cooper, Sam Cox, L. M. Crooker, V. DeLeon, A. Domschke, R. Eggeling, Charles Ellingson, J. M. Finklin, R. Flume, C. G. Frenzel, C. B. Frost, L. Gevers, H. Gissell, Sam Glaser, G. Goldbeck, Wash Green, P. Haenel, Charles Halphan, S. B. Hill, Charles Hofheinz, P. Holland, Charles Hutter, Al Jacks, Jules Jacquard, Walter Jacoby, Gus Johnson, Ed Kaufman, A. Kempen, J. Kirshvink, L. Kirshvink, Fritz Klages, C. A. Koechler, Joe Koen, Peter Kroger, August Krueger, Felix Krueger, William Krueger, D. F. Lamme, George Langguth, N. H. Leader, Hugo Leser, Harry Linn, J. H. Lundine, D. W. McFarland, John McNamara, L. Maas, Henry Maerke, J. J. Malone, A. Mauthe, William Mauthe, Charles Meyer, J. B. Nitschke, R. E. Nitschke, Emil Paech, Richard Pate, Ernest Pressler, R. Raatz, William Remassar, Hugo Ribbeck, A. E. Rosenquist, W. E. Russell, W. A. Sales, S. D. Sandel, C. Schenken, A. H. Schneider, Adolph Schutze, Ed Schutze, C. Smith, R. F. Smith, O. Thomas, M. T. Thompson, C. Thrasher, Ed Varner, K. von Boeckmann, H. VonRosenberg, Jr., A. L. Waechter, R. Waechter, J. Walker, H. Weise, E. Weston, and Gus Wolf.

In 1879, there were fires at the Avenue Hotel and Colonel Peeler's house. Since Austin had several companies, the city



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established rules and each company had designated areas for exercising their teams.

Juvenile Hook and Ladder Company No. 4 organized in 1880, with Otto Brinkmann, Dr. R. H. Edmondson, C. J. Fisher, Will Ford, P. W. Hinton, E. G. Newman, Rad Platt, Jr., Adolph Schenke, and August Schenke. Their youngest member was Adolph Goldmann, and they met at the home of Captain Thomas E. Sneed at the northwest corner of Trinity and Hickory Street, a house torn down in 1957.

By the late 1870's, due to the insistence of the fire department, there were more hydrants, and by 1881, they were installed in the cemetery, with miles of mains to carry the water. On November 9, 1881, the old capitol burned. There was a fire in early 1883 at the African Methodist Episcopal Church where they had held a watch party the night before. This church was located southwest of the Swedish Lutheran Church, at the present city library location, and the hill there was so steep there was not enough pressure for the firemen to reach the fire.

On February 22, 1886, East Austin Hose Company No. 4 started, in a part of town that was then the fashionable place to live. And this company had a fire hall between Tenth and Eleventh on Lydia Street, and later came to be known as a "crack company."<sup>23</sup> They continued as a company until disbanded in 1916. Men who were associated with it in those early days were:

J. Anderson, R. Arnold, S. Bailette, R. R. Babcock, W. H. Bennett, J. T. Berick, R. Birnstiel, J. M. Braden, G. M. Brass, A. W. Bunsen, J. Cain, Felix Cherico, John Cherico, Alonzo Cook, John Cook, A. T. Corwin, Dennis Corwin, Dr. Jos. Cummings, W. H. Cuneo, R. D. Cunningham, J. T. Depew, W. Dill, H. T. Doss, W. Dull, T. H. Edwards, R. H. Edmondson, G. O. Evans, Jack Farrow, J. C. Fitzhugh, J. P. Hammond, D. S. Harper, G. Hearn, H. Hearn, H. W. Hegel, J. Frank Heierman, J. A. Hofstetter, C. O. Horton, W. N. Hunter, M. M. Johnson, J. Kerns, C. W. Kirby, Joe Kuhn, W. F. Kuhn, H. L. Kuhlman, C. Lamar, J. W. Lamme, A. T. Lee, Pat McNamara, W. J. McNamara, M. Mansfield, L. D. Maxwell, Joseph Melinrich, J. A. Miller, J. M. Mitchell, H. L. Moffitt, Charles T. Moore, Nelson Nagle, Z. A. Nevill, A. H. Newton, W. W. Pace, E. Peterson, F. Pinget, J. D. Price, J. W. Quinland, R. E. Raif, W. S. Red, George L. Robertson, Walter Robertson, Ben Rollins, T. P. Robinson, E. Rosengren, W. E. Russell, W. Schoenert, G. Schuwirth, J. E. Sharp, E. E. Smith, J. T. Smith, J. Swanzey, E. Swenson, R. L. Theilau, J. W. Thompson, T. C. Thomason, W. N. Tinnin, E. W. Torrence, W. B. Torrence, John Wallace, W. E. Ward, J. H. F. Wenzel, T. H. Wheless, C. Wolf, J. H. Woolford, H. A. Words.

In 1886, the West Austin Fire and Hose Co. was chartered with a capital stock of \$1,000.<sup>24</sup> South Austin Hose Co. No. 5 was chartered March 29, 1895. The following were members:

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B. Adrian, W. Adrian, E. P. Albrecht, John Andrewartha, J. O. Andrewartha, R. H. Bennett, H. Berry, E. Bornhardt, H. Bornhardt, G. A. Bornhardt, G. A. Brush, W. A. Burke, C. N. Bustin, Ed. Byrn, C. B. Capron, T. K. Carson, J. Crotty, Wm. M. Cunningham, N. A. Dawson, W. W. Durham, Alvin Eck, L. H. Glasscock, A. A. Gruber, L. L. Hoyer, R. E. Jeavons, F. S. Ketchum, G. B. Ketchum, H. J. Ketchum, O. Kunz, W. N. LeSeuer, George Lewis, John McKnight, W. D. Miller, Will Moore, A. Oelkers, W. Paggi, Cloud Perl, H. Pohn, A. Polhemus, C. B. Poteet, W. C. Redd, E. Reesby, L. Remella, C. F. Schapper, E. Shelton, F. M. Simcock, W. R. Simcock, E. Stomper, Will Stomper, Sam Stone, G. H. Sullivan, Horace Sullivan, Neil Sullivan, J. J. Terrell, Wm. Turner, George P. Warner, W. C. Welch, R. Weyerman, R. H. Wilhite, J. H. W. Williams, H. B. Wilson, H. A. Wroe, A. H. Yarrington.

On May 28, 1895, at 4:00 a.m., there was a fire at the West Austin Grade School started by an arsonist, who was later sent to the penitentiary. This arsonist started six fires, it was learned later, intending to kill a driver, whom he disliked.

Salaries for the firemen were raised in January, 1888, by the city council. Drivers were increased from \$480 to \$600 annually. Also, in January, 1888, the city council voted to rent a fire alarm from the Union Fire Alarm Company of New York for a year at a \$1,200 annual rate.

North Austin Hose Co. No. 6 was started August 1, 1896. These were members:

George Adams, N. B. Barron, C. J. Berryman, E. C. Birdwell, J. B. Birdwell, F. C. Burns, H. A. Burns, F. M. Clark, Pat Comesky, T. N. Dawson, Henry Denis, T. A. Doxey, R. Egging, A. Ekdall, W. Hale, L. C. Hauseman, T. J. Ing, H. D. Johnson, C. H. Lebota, H. Lensing, C. Long, J. J. McCuiston, G. J. Mayton, J. S. Moffat, R. B. Newcomb, J. Pickle, F. T. Ramsev, Tom Roberts, R. Seekatz, Wm. Seekatz, E. W. Shands, M. M. Shipe, Geo. S. Smith, E. A. Thielepape, Wm. Twining, J. W. Warmack. Their hall was at 30th and Rio Grande Streets, and later members were: Henry Achilles, Tom Boston, W. N. Bowden, E. B. Carruth, Frank Covert, George Crawford, A. L. Deison, Walter Dodge, P. Dunson, J. J. Felton, J. B. Gasser, Jacob Hildinger, John J. Hildinger, Oscar Jones, J. W. Lensing, Frank Larue, Jacob Leser, S. M. Lightsey, Chas. Loney, W. N. McElroy, Jos. F. McGrath, Joe Macken, A. W. Oliphant, Geo. Pendexter, F. Robinson, H. E. Seekatz, Harry C. Seekatz, E. W. Shands, Wm. Smith, John Stelfox, J. W. Stewart, Ed Summeroe, Ed A. Thiele, Bob Thorp, Geo. W. Turner, John A. Volz.

During the summer of 1896, the fireman's monument in the capitol grounds was dedicated on July 7. About 1897 the city purchased a respirator for the fire department. By the end of the century Austin was planning an electric alarm system, to cost about \$12,000.<sup>25</sup>

West Austin Hose Company No. 7 started again in January, 1904, reorganized February 16, 1905, and chartered May 10, 1905, with the following members:

D. Allen, G. C. Blailock, John A. Brackenridge, J. O. Buaas, Charley Bulian, Will Bulian, Elmer Burnett, J. Callan, Jim J. Cain, B. W. Collins,

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Atch. Corwin, W. S. Drake, E. C. Dyer, B. Fischer, Francis Fischer, Joe Fischer, Henry W. Gammell, H. P. N. Gammel, E. W. Gammelel, Jim Girard, W. A. Goodman, Dr. Granberry, J. S. Griffin, J. G. Head, Clarence Hearn, Will Hoist, A. J. Howard, Jules Johnson, Walter Johnson, W. S. Johnson Jr., Henry Maddox, Eugene Martin, J. Mathews, C. Ledbetter, C. J. Mayer, F. Mayer, John McNamara, J. D. Moore, A. N. Munn, John O'Brine, Fred Odell, J. M. Patterson, D. Patton, F. Petmecky, Jake Platt, P. W. Powell, Chas. Raines, J. E. Rebman, John Schneider, Geo. P. Seairight, Will Seairight, J. W. D. Singleton, Will Skelley, R. L. Slaughter, H. Smith, Jim Smith, E. C. Stanton, Theo. Sterzing, S. Strobel, W. J. J. Terrell, J. A. Turpin, V. O. Weed, Bob Whitaker, S. K. Wroe, Harry Ziller, Theo Ziller.

And when the Austin Daily Tribune of August 25, 1899, complimented the fire department, it couldn't know how soon they would have to fight a fire at the capitol. They commented: "The Austin people feel proud of their fire department. It is a volunteer organization . . ." It was September 30, 1899, when the temporary capitol burned and the firemen were faced with low water pressure. Many firemen were injured at this fire: Will Leonard and Fritz Bohn were overcome by smoke, O. C. Blanton was injured by a falling wall, Felix Krueger by falling stone, and Will Forbes, Joe Corwin and Al Jacks were cut by falling glass, as was William G. Eyres. James Quinlan was hurt by smoke and a fall, and James Starr had his leg mashed by falling debris.<sup>26</sup>

The Tenth Ward Fire Company No. 8 began on May 26, 1908, with the following charter members:

L. J. Bailey, H. Bartlett, A. Bassetti, H. Baumert, J. J. Becker, H. Becker, C. W. Borneman, Otto Bohls, M. M. Braswell, Geo. Burns, C. J. Carlson, T. J. Christal, George Clary, Jeff Cook, John Cook, J. W. Cordell, James Cummings, H. R. Davis, R. Depew, C. Enlow, C. L. Farris, W. J. Foster, A. R. Gerzell, Sam Glass, L. Goerner, John Grist, C. Hargrave, H. A. Herzog, J. K. Hethcourt, C. Horton, J. W. Horton, T. Horton, J. Huhn, R. G. Ladusch, S. R. Lagrone, F. D. Lloyd, M. Luding, C. Ludwig, E. Ludwig, R. Ludwig, H. C. Mangham, D. Martin, G. E. Martin, W. P. Martin, R. P. Matthews, C. B. Copeland, Ben Morrell, F. Muller, R. M. Mueez, W. D. Neyland, B. Nichols, John O'Brine, M. Peterson, P. Peterson, S. P. Peterson, C. Petri, H. D. Pruett, Joe Ravanella, H. Reno, E. W. Robinson, T. P. Robinson, Jr., T. P. Robinson, Sr., H. Saunders, J. Saunders, P. Schnano, J. Schapiro, C. W. Smith, John Spencer, W. H. Stubb, J. L. Swanzy, N. A. Turner, O. G. Wagenfuhr, H. W. Wettergrove, H. Wukasch.

Rescue Hose Company No. 9 started on May 21, 1913, before the companies disbanded in 1916.

By 1912 there were motored machines and volunteer firemen were being replaced by salaried men. When the volunteer companies were disbanded in 1916, and Austin began its fire department system of paid personnel, C. L. Woodward became fire chief, with the following assistants: assistant chief, George Pendexter; fire marshal, Oscar Kunz; laddermen, J. H. Smith,



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W. L. Hearn, and A. P. Loney; captain, Company No. 1, E. L. Tallichet; hosemen, W. E. Erwin, John Woody, Fred Leser; captain, Company No. 2, Otto Brinkmann; hosemen, Wm. Kreuger, W. H. Bonte; captain, Company No. 3, Ed Allen; hosemen, Eugene Mueller, F. A. Peterson; captain, Company No. 4, C. W. Wright; hosemen, Roy Fruth, Lewis Deats; captain, Company No. 5, Harper Nations; hosemen, John Lucky, Jim Quinlan, Lawrence Hanley; captain, Company No. 6, J. A. Turpin; hosemen, Nolen Miller, Camille Maufrais; captain, Company No. 7, W. D. Neyland; hosemen, C. L. Ferris, James Pinget; captain, Company No. 8, W. C. Hart; hosemen, E. C. Hickman, L. W. Loden.

The Texas Siftings gave a merited tribute to the firemen of Austin on December 24, 1881, "In no city in Texas that we know of, or elsewhere, is there so large a proportion of the best men in the community connected with the fire department. The most prominent bankers, merchants, and professional men in Austin are firemen."

Probably no group has served its city better than those volunteer firemen, from 1858 to 1916. According to records retained by the local fire stations, these were the volunteer supervisors who served their city during those years:

Year	Chief	Assisant Chief	Recorder
1866-69	C. F. Millett		
1869-70	Fred Moore		
1870	J. H. Robinson		
1871-72	Dave Wilson		
1872-74	M. M. Long		
1874-75	J. A. Nagle	A. Ziller	A. H. Robinson
1875-76	J. A. Nagle	H. M. Metz	P. Thompson
1876-77	J. A. Nagle	H. M. Metz	T. J. Campbell
1877-78	J. A. Nagle	C. F. Millett	Fritz Reichmann
1878-79	J. A. Nagle	C. F. Millett, A. Ziller	Fritz Reichmann
1879-80	John Bremond	A. Ziller	Fritz Reichmann
1880-81	John Bremond	A. Ziller	L. M. Goldbeck
1881-82	A. Ziller	J. P. Kirk	Chas. Hofheinz
1882-83	A. Ziller	J. P. Kirk	Chas. Hofheinz
1883-84	A. Ziller	W. R. Brown	Chas. Hofheinz
1884-85	W. R. Brown	W. von Rosenberg	A. Giesen
1885-86	S. W. French	W. von Rosenberg	J. A. Miller
1886-87	Monroe Miller	F. E. Jones	J. A. Miller
1887-88	Monroe Miller	R. D. Cunningham	Louis Boerner
1888-89	A. Ziller	Albert Schneider	Louis Boerner
1889-90	W. V. Mather	Albert Schneider	Louis Boerner
1890-91	W. V. Mather	J. S. Farrow	Jim Donovan
1891-92	A. Ziller	F. O. Babcock	H. W. Brown
1892-93	A. Ziller	H. W. Brown	H. W. Brown
		Albert Peterson	W. P. Ford
1893-94	F. O. Babcock	W. P. Ford	Wm. F. Kuhn

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1894-95	Albert Peterson	W. E. Russell	T. D. Smith
1895-96	W. P. Ford	Joe Stumpf	Julius Schutze, Jr.
1896-97	W. E. Russell	Julius Schutze, Jr.	W. A. Achilles
1897-98	Joe Stumpf	W. A. Achilles	C. L. Woodward
1898-99	Joe Stumpf	Joe Macken	Jim Mitchell
1899-00	Joe Stumpf	C. L. Woodward	J. E. Shelton
1900-01	Joe Macken	C. M. Bonte	Will Dill
1901-02	Joe Macken	Will Dill	O. L. Miller
1902-03	C. N. Bonte	Julius Schutze, Jr.	Will Johnson
1903-04	Will Dill	Will Johnson	D. von Boeckmann
1904-05	Julius Schutze, Jr.	Dick von Boeckmann	Joe Volz
1905-06	C. L. Woodward	Mack Longley	Chas. Brunner
1906-07	C. L. Woodward	Mack Longley	Chas. Brunner
1907-08	C. L. Woodward	John O'Brine	George Wolters
1908-09	Adolph Schutze	George Wolters	..... Darby
1909-10	A. Corwin	Ramey Seekatz	Tom Buttery
1910-11	George Wolters	Chas. Smith	N. A. Turner
1911-12	C. L. Woodward	Oscar Kunz	Leo Mueller
1912-13	Leo Mueller	Oscar Kunz	Tom Roberts
1913-14	Oscar Kunz	J. W. T. Goslin	Lee Caldwell
1913-14	J. W. T. Goslin	Tom Roberts	M. M. Grimes
1914-15	J. W. T. Goslin	James Starr	George Best
1915-16	Oscar Wiederstrom	George Best	A. J. Raif

## WELFARE

Since their founding, both the county and the city of Austin have functioned separately in such fields as welfare, long before the era of state and federal welfare programs. Both the city and the county organized welfare departments in the 1930's. The city's welfare unit was originally part of the city health department. The county welfare department operated under the control of the county judge and was handled for many years, until recently, by Miss Lolla Peterson, in this century. Between 1839 and 1899 the county commissioners court dispensed county funds for welfare. During the 1950's the city and county welfare units merged and were controlled by the county, while the city assumed supervision of the city hospital and TB sanitarium, and library service, in which the county had shared.

In administering its welfare program, Travis County worked in the field of welfare as early as 1840, naming Wm. T. Wood, on Feb. 3, 1840, to provide for the poor. In September, 1840, an appropriation of \$50 was made for William Aiken, an invalid pauper<sup>27</sup> and on October 24, 1840, William T. Wood was appointed agent for county, to cooperate with the mayor and aldermen of the City of Austin, to make provision for the poor within the city, with the county to pay half of the cost of boarding paupers.

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By January 4, 1841, each beat had an overseer appointed for the paupers in the precinct. Money was also being paid by the commissioners court for the care of lunatics, too. In 1856, Lone Star Chapter No. 120 was being paid for boarding a pauper and for years Mary Ann Thompson was paid by the court for boarding paupers. Was she the mother of Ben Thompson?

During the Civil War, there were more cases of needy and sick persons being cared for, and lunatics were sent to the State Lunatic Asylum by then.

In 1862, at a special commissioners court meeting, a committee was appointed, with one man from each of the city's ten precincts, to provide relief for families of Confederate soldiers, with the chief justice being delegated to issue bonds up to \$1,000 for their support, to be issued in small sums. Charge tickets up to \$5,000 were printed by the Texas Almanac office in two colors, half for 50 cents, half for 25 cents, to be issued by the chief justice to applicants. These families of soldiers were also provided free cloth from the penitentiary for clothing. On July 20, 1863, a hogshead of sugar was donated by R. J. Townes for soldiers' families and more money was allocated to them in 1863. Then a special tax of 37½ cents, in addition to the county tax of 12½ cents, was levied for the support of soldiers' families.

The provision of funds, food, clothing, wood, etc., continued by the commissioners court until this century, and under Austin's city government, welfare was also handled as provided by ordinances. At first, the welfare work was handled by one worker under supervision of the city council.

## HEALTH

The health problem of early Texas was fevers—dengue, malaria, typhoid, and yellow. They seemed synonymous with summer. In Travis County, doctors were among the first settlers. Dr. Samuel G. Haynie came in 1839, as did Dr. R. F. Brenham, Dr. J. E. Elgin, and Dr. Robertson, who had an apothecary shop on the Avenue in the 1840's, with Benjamin P. Johnson.

H. Ward was the city sexton, and he also sold coffins. The history of health in Travis County can be read in the cemetery records, particularly those kept by Alexander Eanes. A cholera scare in 1849 prompted a street cleaning campaign. Cemetery



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records show Martin Moore killed by a horse in 1859; Mary, child of John H. Robinson, dying of cholera in 1861; John Rabb, of dropsy. Hopkins and Millican were undertakers in 1862, and in that year there were many deaths of diphtheria.

The doctors seemed advanced in knowledge for the times, because in 1851, Doctors Baker and Lytton were advertising "vaccine matter," according to the *State Gazette*, March 29, 1851.

By 1870, Austin doctors were meeting, and the *Daily Austin Republican* of July 9, 1870, told of the medical men meeting in the "counting-room" of Alexander's Drug Store.

Austin's Board of Health began in July, 1871, with seven doctors serving under Dr. Litten, chairman and city physician, as related in the *Daily State Journal* of July 11, 1871. The health, or city physician, was appointed by the mayor and city council, to enforce health rules and sanitation, with the aid of the chief of police. He was also to visit the jail and workhouse, and superintend the city hospital,—all for a salary of \$300 annually. Each city ward had a health inspector, and a pest house was to be set up in event of an epidemic. J. W. Stalnoker was city physician in 1874, followed by Dr. R. S. Graves.

In 1874, the Austin City Cemetery had a sexton who was also a police officer to enforce rules at the cemetery. He too, was appointed by the mayor and council, and sold blocks in the cemetery for \$50; half blocks, \$25; quarter blocks, \$12.50; and single spaces for \$5.<sup>28</sup>

In the 1870's, Travis County had several epidemics of dengue fever, or "break-bone fever," as it was called.<sup>29</sup>

From 1877 to 1881, Dr. R. H. L. Bibb was city health officer, and on October 1, 1877, the Austin Hospital opened with Dr. B. E. Hadra in charge, according to the *Daily Democratic Statesman* of September 27, 1877. By 1878, this Austin Hospital had become the Austin Infirmary, accommodating twenty patients, and charging a dollar a day for city and county cases, and one to three dollars a day for private rooms. The *Daily Democratic Statesman* of January 1, 1878, listed these doctors on the staff: J. W. McLaughlin, T. D. Manning, R. M. Swearingen, and J. J. Tobin.

In the matter of health and welfare, the City Hospital has made a real contribution.

In 1878, Drs. Swearingen and Manning were volunteers

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serving in the yellow fever epidemic in Mississippi, where many died and Dr. Manning lost his life. Dr. Swearingen returned to Austin and was state health officer in 1881.

The Austin City Infirmary was located on the southwest corner of Walnut and Rio Grande Streets, with Dr. Frank L. McLaughlin physician in charge and Mrs. Allie Wright as matron, in 1879-1880.

The board of health in 1880 had five members, with the president being the city physician. Doctors and hotel keepers had to report contagious diseases, which were cared for in isolation camps outside the city limits. There was no system for registration of births, and deaths were certified by a physician. Streets were swept with hand brooms, and garbage was disposed of by owners.

It was 1883 before the present Brackenridge Hospital came into being. During 1883, plans were made for the building, to cost \$10,000, on "hospital block" set aside on the original layout of Austin.<sup>30</sup> By 1885, this city hospital was on the southeast corner of East Walnut and Sabine Streets, as planned, with W. J. Burt, city physician, Frank L. McLaughlin, resident physician, and Mrs. A. Wright, matron. By 1887, it was the City and County Hospital, with Dr. R. S. Graves as city and county physician, Frank L. McLaughlin, resident, and Mrs. A. Wright, matron.

In a report of the city sexton for January, 1888, there were 23 deaths that month; 17 white and 6 colored; 12 male and 11 female. The city physician's report for that month showed 10 patients in the hospital, and two deaths, one from scarlet fever and one from diphtheria.

In 1885-86 the county poor farm provided a place for paupers, and was located six miles north of Austin on the upper Georgetown road. Chas. B. Cleghorn was superintendent. Later, in this century, it was situated east of Casis School.

1886 was the year of scares from epidemics; Austin had its first smallpox epidemic in April, and later was the scarlet fever scare. In the fall of 1886, the German-American Ladies' Aid Society was chartered to assist the poor, sick, and helpless, according to the *Austin Statesman* of October 27, 1886. Out of this group grew the Ladies of Charity, Austin's oldest continual charity group.

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The Austin Sanitarium started at 206-208 West 14 Street in 1886, with Drs. B. E. Hadra, J. W. McLaughlin, R. Steiner, and T. J. Tyner, and there were comments in the *Austin Statesman* of November 21, 1889, that Austin doctors, due to the healthfulness, "will have to open up peanut stands."

In December, 1887, the following aldermen were appointed by the city council as a health commission for the city: Assman, Boland, Brush, Campbell, Fisher, Haigler, Jones, Linn, Odell, Platt, Phillips, Wilson.

In 1891, the Austin Sanitarium for Nervous and Mental Diseases was incorporated with \$100,000 capital stock, under Drs. A. N. Denton and T. J. Bennett, and a story of it was in the *Austin Statesman* of July 17, 1891.

On August 26, 1892, the Austin City Cemetery was incorporated, with Otto Bergstrom as president, and with offices at 714 Congress.

In 1893, the city pound was at the corner of Colorado and West Fourth Streets, and the Austin Humane Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals started in March, 1897, with Mrs. Ira H. Evans, president.

In 1895, there was an eye, ear, nose and throat hospital, under Dr. Hilgartner, and in 1898, the Texas Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital was in the Brown Mansion at 803 Brazos Street. There was a children's home at 1905 Guadalupe Street.

In 1898, there was a smallpox epidemic, and a camp for patients was set up near the Colorado River at the end of River View Street.

The Texas State Medical Association started in 1868, and had an annual meeting in Austin April 24-29, 1894. The Travis County Medical Society organized on June 20, 1873, with Thomas O. Maxwell, president; W. J. Burt, vice president; Q. C. Smith, secretary; Maurice Solm, treasurer. Meetings were at the office of Dr. B. F. Church, 104 West Seventh Street. The Physicians Mutual Benefit Association of Texas organized in Austin in April, 1884. The Austin District Medical Society organized September 8, 1887, with W. A. Morris, president, and other representative officers from Manor and Round Rock.

## UTILITIES

Austin's city government was discussing the matter of utilities as early as March 4, 1841, when they passed a resolu-



tion condemning the well dug on Lot 1, Block 59, as a public nuisance and directing the marshal to eliminate it.

Before cisterns were constructed, water was hauled in whiskey barrels from the river and sold for twenty-five cents a barrel.

Utilities were slow in coming to Austin, and it was after the first railroad reached the city that several of these services were started. Water was the main requirement of the citizens, while they wanted the city to build bridges, culverts, crossings over creeks, pumps, hydrants, etc.

In October, 1871, the city entered into an agreement with C. R. Johns, G. W. Fisher and G. W. McKinney to supply the City of Austin with water from the Colorado River, or other source. There were other companies that started systems of furnishing water and sprinkling systems, but completion of these projects were a problem of that era. The Austin Water Supply Company was started about 1875 by civic minded citizens, Bremond, Brueggerhoff, Castelman, Hancock, Johns, Millett, Pease, Raymond, Taylor, Walton, West, Wheeler, and Zimpelman, who planned to pump water from a reservoir on Mount Bonnell and pipe it through town. Captain M. D. Mather bought two fifty-horsepower engines from Cincinnati to pump water into a reservoir.

This was the time when houses were being built with bathrooms.<sup>29</sup> Then, the Austin waterworks was installing hydrants on Austin's two main streets, Congress and Pecan.

The City Water Company incorporated in 1875, was composed of William B. Brush, F. W. Chandler, Dr. R. E. Grant, M. D. Mather, and C. C. White. This company was at the foot of Colorado Street and placed its pump near the present site of the drill tower, and served the city about twenty years. The company received an annual fee of \$10,000 for city services.

By 1877 the City Water Company with a reservoir of three million gallons under construction, was pulling in pipes to every street in Austin, and hydrants for service to homes. This water company contracted with the King Bridge Company to build a large reservoir. New fire hydrants were built with double openings.<sup>31</sup>

The city on April 18, 1877, had leased the City Water Company ground on River Walk, for \$100 yearly, for twenty years,

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provided this company constructed a water supply system from the reservoir to supply source, including boilers, pipes, pumps, etc. Seventy hydrants and stock watering fountains were to be set at sites specified by the city, and water was to be provided for street sprinkling, and fire units via the fire cisterns (while in use) and rates were not to exceed five cents for each barrel of forty gallons, with extensions of pipes to be provided as needed. The company was to pay the city \$25 quarterly for the use of the river front for pumps, etc., and there were other lesser provisions and restrictions.

By 1887, the City Water Company had offices at 105 West Tenth Street, and M. D. Mather was president. An electric light system started in 1883, and by 1887, it and the waterwork started in 1875, were consolidated and chartered by 1887; Mather was president of this Austin Water, Light and Power Company, which served Austin until 1895 when the dam was built and the city controlled such services. A board of public works was started in 1890. By 1896, E. C. Bartholomew was receiver for this company.

O. Henry in his *Rolling Stone* of March 30, 1895, facetiously compared the old and the new systems for service:

Old Water Company Prices	
House with green blinds, per year .....	\$ 30.00
House with green doors in rooms per year .....	35.00
Dairy .....	400.00
Hasdugeseininsingen clec club house .....	00.00
House containing seven children using salt mackerel .....	90.00
Cream colored house with Johnson grass lawn and weeping willow, per year .....	140.00
Three-story rock building with 17 hydrants, (owned by capitalist who voted against dam) per year .....	00.00
Two-room frame cottage, no hydrant, hauling water from river in wagon, owned by man employed on dam, per bucketful .....	1.75
City Councilman's house, with roan horse and four toddy's per day, per year .....	2000.00
Home of gentleman owning dam bonds, one hydrant, per fluid ounce .....	100.00
City prices	
House with 27 rooms, 1 hydrant, per year .....	3.00
House with 1 room, 27 hydrants, per year .....	3.00
House owned by Kentucky Colonel, any number hydrants .....	0.00
House with front lawn and stripped stockings, per year .....	8.00

By September, there was a suit in the Federal Court by the old water company against the city via receiver Bartholomew, for water rent for \$10,000.

The city had voted bonds up to \$200,000 to complete construction of the water and light system, with mains, etc., with a

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tax of sixteen cents on each \$100 value for interest and sinking fund,<sup>32</sup> and ordinances of 1895 fixed rules and rates for the Waterworks, Electric Lights and Power Plants of the City of Austin, with supervision by the Water and Light Commission, composed of W. H. Tobin, chairman, John McDonald, mayor, (ex-officio member), Francis Fischer, P. J. Lawless, J. P. Schneider, with W. J. Oliphant, secretary, John W. Maddox, superintendent, and Max Reisman, engineer. Rates in 1895, for water were:

For dwelling of one, two or three rooms, per year .....	\$ 6.00
For each additional room per year .....	50
For bath tubs, each, per year .....	2.00
For yard fountain, according to size of jet .....	5.00 to 25.00
For sprinkling streets and lawns, meters and special rates:	
In apartments, flats and office buildings, rooms, each, per year ....	\$ 1.00
Bath tubs for general use, each, per year .....	5.00
Stores with 25 front feet or less, per year .....	6.00
Stores 25 to 50 feet front .....	9.00
Stores over 50 feet front .....	12.50
Soda Fountains and tumbler washers per year .....	5.00 to 20.00
Water troughs per year .....	10.00
Barber shops with one chair, per year .....	5.00
Barber shops with two chairs, per year .....	8.00
Churches per year .....	6.00

Breweries, colleges, county and state buildings, etc., were metered and the rate for water was 10 cents per 1,000 gallons, and not less than \$12.00 per year.

Rates for electricity: Private dwellings: 16 candlepower light, 1st 35 cents, 2nd 30 cents; 3rd, 25 cents; 4th, etc., 20 cents each. Progressive rates were charged for 25 candlepower, 32 candlepower and 50 candlepower. Meter rates for public buildings were five cents for 1,000 watts, or  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent for each ampere hour. In cases where portable fans, heating or cooking devices were used, meters were furnished to tab the current. Meter rates for power were 5 cents per 1,000, where the monthly consumption was 100,000 watts or less; prices decreased from 101,000 to 500,000 to 4 cents per 1,000, etc.

There was another court case, too, called the river front case. It seems that the capital city was located on land belonging to heirs of Stephen F. Austin, who did not wish to sell it, so Chief Justice L. C. Cunningham of Bastrop County appointed a committee of men to appraise the land, which they did at \$3.50 per acre; this price was paid to the claimants and the land was deeded to the Republic of Texas. When Austin was surveyed and laid out, the river front along River Walk was not included



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and did not form a part of Austin. In 1886, tenants along River Walk were leasing the land from the city, and about 1893, the State claimed the land, and attempted to claim taxes paid to the city by these people, which amounted to around \$7,200.

There were other utilities starting in Austin in the early eighties. The Austin Ice Company and the Capital Ice Company works were at the foot of Congress Avenue, and a bridge was built there, too. The Capital Ice Company had an office at Forster and Ludlow's bank, with G. Crow, president, and B. C. Ludlow, vice president. The Austin Ice Company had an office at the corner of Colorado and Water Avenue.

An Austin Fuel and Ice Company with August Giesen, president, was started in January, 1897, and the Lone Star Ice Company, with A. J. Zilker, president, in September, 1895. The Santa Monica Company was incorporated in 1896, with capital stock of \$2,000 and David A. Cypher, president.

The city passed an ordinance on August 7, 1860, permitting the installation of up to five hundred gas burners in the city by January 1, 1862. During 1861 pipes were laid and burners installed to provide Austin with gaslight.<sup>33</sup>

The Austin Gas Company was organized on July 29, 1871, with E. M. Pease president. 1300 shares of stock were subscribed, with capital \$150,000.<sup>34</sup> A panic was prevailing, nationally, in 1873; banks were closing; but Austin was progressing. An ordinance was passed to permit Sylvester Watts of St. Louis, to operate a gas works to provide coal gas equivalent to about fifteen candles, at a cost of not more than \$7 per thousand feet. Gas lamps were set up, and by 1878, the Austin Gaslight and Coal Co. was lighting the city with 44 of them, costing the taxpayers \$54 for each annually. This was the day of the old lamp-lighter, and extinguisher. But their worst problem was the horses that were hitched to the lamp poles, until an ordinance was passed prohibiting this. By 1875, bids were being opened for lighting the capitol and mansion with gas. Low bidder was Brush and White, for \$2,600, against Selby and Calder's bid of \$2,930, and Whiting's of \$3,330, according to the *Daily Democratic Statesman*.

The *Weekly Democratic Statesman* of February 24, 1876, listed in Austin a gas factory and a waterworks. By 1877, several miles of pipe were laid and gas was being supplied. Lamps

were placed on street corners during this year.

The gas company reduced rates to \$4 per thousand cubic feet and secured about fifty new customers. There was a revenue of about \$18,000 yearly from meters and gas. The gas company was producing 15,000 cubic feet daily. By 1881, Austin had only one gas company, and its first electric plant in 1883.

By 1878, Sylvester Watts had the exclusive right for 25 years to operate and maintain gas works in the city, at a cost to the city of not more than \$7 per 1,000 cubic feet for a good coal gas of not less than 15 candles. The Austin Electric Light Company was incorporated January 18, 1879, by S. D. (?) Sneed, George B. Zimpelman, J. J. Tobin, J. C. Petmecky, J. M. Litten and John Caldwell. By 1886, offices were at 105 East Tenth Street, and V. Mather was president.

Street lighting came up at a meeting of the citizens in March, 1882. J. H. Warmoth presided, and R. J. Grant was secretary of the group which decided to raise the funds necessary for street lighting, by having one business man responsible in each block on the Avenue from the capitol to the river, and from Pecan Street west to Shoal Creek.

The Austin Gaslight and Coal Company chartered in 1883, had its plant on the south side of Live Oak Street between Colorado Street and Congress Avenue. Sylvester Watt, of St. Louis, was president; C. F. Millett, of Austin, vice president; Arthur E. Judge, secretary-treasurer-superintendent. By 1880, W. C. Phillips was president, George B. Zimpelman, vice president, and John M. Swisher, secretary-treasurer. By 1883, their office was at the German-American bank of F. B. Forster, on Bois d'Arc, near Congress.

In 1883, the Capital Gaslight Company was chartered, and had offices at 503 Congress, with B. von Steenberg, of Goshon, N. Y., as president; Frank A. Chapman, treasurer, and Ed Hupertz, secretary. By 1887, offices were at 105 West Second Street and the plant was at the southwest corner of Congress and Fifth Street. H. K. Thurber was president, and Ed Hupertz secretary.

Austin had forty electric lights by 1886.<sup>35</sup> The Austin Electric Light Company was chartered with capital stock of \$25,000,<sup>36</sup> and that same year, the Capital Electric Light Company was chartered with \$20,000.<sup>37</sup>

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The Edison Electric Light Company began in 1887 to furnish lights indoors, and the first places to be so lighted were the post office, county courthouse, Statesman office, Western Union, Charles Cortissoz and the Orr house. This company closed before the year ended. Other companies carried on as the City Water Works and Electric Light Company and the Austin Water, Heat and Light Company, chartered with \$300,000.

It was in the era of the eighties that sewerage systems were started, and lines were laid first from the governor's mansion to the river.

At the city council meeting of January 6, 1888, the Austin Water, Light and Power Company reported that they had set up twenty-five 2,000 candlepower Brush arc lamps in downtown Austin and in parts of the residential area, and requested that incandescent lamps replace the gas and oil lamps used around Austin. On January 16, 1888, the city council authorized this company to furnish the twenty-five arc lamps at \$150 each annually, and one hundred incandescent lights of 25 candlepower at \$25 annually for five years, to be set at specified sites in the city, but it developed that the Austin Gaslight and Coal Company would be in a position to provide the same in twelve months, so approval was deferred. At this time, payment was discontinued to the Capital Gaslight Company for gas lamps, and the Austin Water, Light and Power Company was to be paid for incandescent lighting.

By May 31, 1895, there were 750 water customers in Austin and 766 electricity customers.

A city ordinance was passed in 1889 which made heating of homes possible, and a 50-year contract was consummated with Sylvester Watts, of St. Louis, to construct a gas works that would supply the city with gas of 15-candle standard, not to cost more than \$3.50 per 1,000 cubic feet. Their first plant was at West Avenue and West Pine Streets, then at Colorado and West Live Oak Streets, and later at San Marcos and East Cypress Streets. Many Austin school children were taken on tours of the latter plant, by J. W. Rountree, supervisor. In 1895, the Texas Electric Company was incorporated in March, and the capitol was being wired for electricity.

In 1895, the city voted bonds up to \$200,000 to complete construction of a water and light system, with mains, etc., and



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a tax of sixteen cents on each \$100 value for interest and sinking fund. In January, 1897, the Austin Fuel and Ice Company started, with August Giesen as president. The Austin Gas Company was chartered in 1899 with \$150,000 capital stock.<sup>38</sup>

Natural gas came into Austin in 1929 and the city was served by the Texas Public Service Company until Southern Union Gas Company started to serve Austin in 1949.

Sanitation service was started in 1877, when the city constructed a wooden sewer five by six up the approach at the Swisher ferry at the foot of Congress. The City of Austin Sewerage Company was incorporated March 17, 1892. The Austin Sewerage Company is shown in October, 1895, as incorporating, and sewerage lines were laid from the governor's mansion to the river.

## COMMUNICATIONS

This was another problem and just as uncertain as travel and transportation in the early days of Travis County. Couriers on fast horses called the settlers together if the Indians were sighted. Companies contracted with the Republic of Texas to deliver the mail. A mail route was established from Bastrop to Reuben Hornsby's on May 24, 1838.<sup>39</sup> Then, there was a mail route from Colonel Harvey Jones' in Bastrop, to the town of Comanche.<sup>40</sup> On January 29, 1840, the *Gazette* reported that there had been no mail from Houston for four weeks.

Texas, in 1840, had 120 post offices, with one at Austin and at Comanche, thirteen miles from Austin.<sup>41</sup> The Austin post office was in the Hyde and McKinstry store, on the northeast corner of Congress and Pecan. At Webber's Prairie, Noah Smithwick was postmaster, and his later writings preserved the stories of the 25-cent charge for a letter and the fiddle which Peter Carr, Travis County's first mail man, carried and played at stops on his route.

In 1846, Austin's post office was in the Dieterich Building at the southeast corner of Congress Avenue and Pecan Street.

The *Austin City Gazette* on December 29, 1841, reported that the mail man was killed by Indians on the road from Gonzales to Austin.

## *History of Travis County*

In an ad in the *Texas Democrat* of Saturday, March 18, 1848, John Wahrenberger advertised oysters, 4,000 of them, at his bakery two doors below the post office on the Avenue, and a four-horse coach built in Texas by a Captain Breece carried the mail to Austin.<sup>42</sup>

By 1849, S. G. Haynie was postmaster at the Bosche building near Eighth Street on the Avenue; in 1851, he had the post office in the New Temperance Hall built west of Haynie's house at the northwest corner of Congress and Eighth Street. William Rust was postmaster in 1857-59 in the Swenson building. At that time there were about 400 private boxes for mail, renting at 50c quarterly.<sup>43</sup>

Delivery of mail was haphazard during early 1861, but by fall it was arriving three times weekly from Houston.

During 1877-78, while H. B. Kinney was postmaster, the office was on the south side of Bois d'Arc Street, between Congress Avenue and Brazos Street.

The post office building at Sixth and Colorado Streets and the opera house next door were being built in the spring of 1875. Stone cutters of the local stone were paid \$2.50 a day (or they could work by the foot), and laborers were paid \$1.25. Construction was slow and on September 4, 1880, the *Statesman* commented on the city's refusal to let the federal government build sewers to the river, and on the fact that the city did not have ample sewer facilities.

The building was completed in 1880 at a cost of about \$200,000. It was June 30, 1901, when announcements were made that rural free delivery would be started in Travis County, and Postmaster Brush arranged to serve six routes.

By 1919, the new site for the post office at West Sixth and Lavaca Streets had been purchased by the government for \$40,000. The four lots were purchased from C. P. Ledbetter, \$10,000; E. P. Wilmot and Ira H. Evans, \$20,000; and John Dougherty, \$10,000. This post office was built on the site of the Carrollton Hotel. Airmail began for Austin February 6, 1928.

In 1963, a post office and federal office building is being constructed on two complete blocks between Eighth and Tenth Streets and San Jacinto and Trinity Streets that will cost, when complete, nearly \$10,000,000.

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Postmasters for Austin after Texas became a state were:

Postmasters—	Date Appointed—
John D. McLeod	May 22, 1846 (established)
Samuel G. Haynie	August 15, 1846
Benjamin F. Johnson	March 15, 1852
William Rust	March 17, 1857
William P. DeNormandie	June 23, 1865
Swante Palm	September 26, 1869
Henry B. Kinney	July 24, 1872
Paul M. Ruthrauff	December 22, 1880
Philip M. Ruthrauff	February 16, 1881
Jacob C. DeGress	June 15, 1881
John O. Johnson	October 5, 1885
Jacob C. DeGress	October 16, 1889
George B. Zimpelman	December 19, 1893
William B. Brush	June 14, 1898
George B. Zimpelman	June 27, 1902
T. L. Wren	June 5, 1908
N. C. Schlemmer	June 14, 1909
Jefferson Johnson	July 2, 1913
George H. Sparenberg	May 19, 1922
Donald O. Wilson (Acting)	June 29, 1925
James L. Hunter	May 28, 1926
Ewell Nalle	July 24, 1935
Ray E. Lee	August 24, 1939
R. L. (Bob) Phinney	November 25, 1947
Oliver N. Bruck	April 22, 1952

Post offices listed for Travis County after the era of statehood began in 1846, were: Austin, Anderson's Mill, Bee Caves, Bluff Springs, Buaas, Carl, Cases, Cases Mills, Cele, Cedar Valley, Clover, Colberg, Colton, Creedmoor, Currie, Delvalle, Des-sau, Doxley, Dunlap, Duval, Ebony, Ernest, Evelyn, Fiskville, Flatt, Flintrock, Garfield, Gilesburg, Gilleland Creek, Grassdale, Gregg (near Manor), Gregg (near Webberville), Hamburg, Hamilton Pool, Hornsby, Jehoy, John, Johnstown, Kimbro, Lakewood, Littig, Lund, McAul, McNeil, Manchac, Manchaca, Manchac House, Manda, Manor, Merrilltown, Montopolis, Mount Juliet, Muckymeeck, Mud, Nameless, New Sweden, Oak Hill, Ogarita, Onion Creek, Oswego, Parson's Seminary, Perdenales, Pflugerville, Rogers Hills, Saint Elmo, Sand, Sprinkle, Summer-ville, Swenson, Tate, Teck, Travis Peak, Tumly's Store, Volente, Walnut Station, Walters, Webber's Prairie, Webberville, Wheeler's Store.

## TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE

Communication by telegraph was a feature of the 1850's in Texas, but before it had reached Austin and Travis County, the Civil War stopped the progress. After the war, railroads and



## *History of Travis County*

telegraph facilities were constructed in a merging arrangement.

During the war, couriers that were really a pony express, brought the news in from the coast country. In 1862, this service was the result of efforts of David Richardson, who came to Austin from Galveston to publish a bulletin. By 1863, telegraph lines were extended from Houston to Hempstead, and the local newspapers relayed the war news as they received it from Hempstead.

Texas' telegraph lines belonged to the Texas Telegraph Company, who later leased them to the Southwestern Telegraph Company. By 1866, the latter company became the property of the American Telegraph Company, which merged with Western Union Telegraph Company in 1869.

In October, 1865, the first line for telegraph came to Austin. John Lee was manager of the Austin office until 1874, and Ben S. Pillow was manager from 1874 to 1891.

In 1870, the military occupation forces in Austin were busy with many details, one of which, according to the *Tri-State Weekly Gazette* of July 7, 1870, was monitoring communications coming into the capital city over the telegraph lines.

Rates for telegrams in 1870 were \$1.50 for a ten-word message to New York. By 1877, the telegraph office of Western Union was on the southwest corner of Congress and Pecan. In 1877, talking on the telephone was tried out between the Western Union office and a store about five miles out on the San Antonio road, unsuccessfully.

Austin's telephone office opened its exchange on June 1, 1881. Many attempts were made to connect the First Baptist Church so Sunday services could be "broadcast," and a south Austin chess club tried to conduct their tournament via telephone. The first telephones in Austin were at the police station, Miller Livery Stable, John Bremond's store, Forster and Company's bank, and at Ben Thompson's.

Austin and Round Rock were talking by telephone in 1884.<sup>44</sup>

A notice in the paper in 1886 asked subscribers to call the operator for "numbers," not names,<sup>45</sup> because there were, by this time, 227 telephones in Austin. A. W. Watson was manager of the local telephone company.<sup>46</sup> There was a line connecting Austin and Houston, via Manor, Elgin, McDade, Brenham, and Hempstead, in 1886.

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By 1887 the Texas Telegraph and Telephone Company incorporated, with F. H. Holloway as president. Western Union in 1888, had offices in the Hancock building, and shared a room with the Austin Statesman. The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company was in its own two-story building, on Congress Avenue, which cost about \$11,000.

Hudson Maude was manager of the Western Union Telegraph office from 1891 to 1892, then O. D. Parker for 35 years until 1927. During his term the office was moved into two rooms back of Renfro Drug Company, and then back to the west part of the Hancock building.

By 1899, telephone lines were extended to Decker, to Manda and New Sweden. The manager, W. W. Vaughan, then requested that subscribers start calling by numbers, since it was becoming a burden for telephone operators to know all the 900 subscribers to the phone service.<sup>47</sup>

Morris S. Schwartz was manager of Western Union from 1927, and the next year, 1928, the office was moved to 613 Congress, and the operators' room was on the sixth floor of the Nalle Building.

## CHAPTER XIII

# *Economic Development of Austin and Travis County, 1839-1899*

(Transportation, Roads, Ferries, Bridges, Agriculture,  
Cattle Drives, Cattle Brands)

The economy of Austin as the capital city and Travis County has always been expanded by employment of many of its citizens in government—national, state, city, and county. Educational employees, occasioned by the University of Texas and other schools, also add to city and county economy. Agriculture and manufacturing are next; however, manufacturing has not been a major source of income in the area, and certainly not from 1839 to 1899. In that period, mills in the area were for corn, flour, lumber, etc., although the *State Gazette* of June 11, 1853, commented on some gold being found in the area of Mears and Lyman Mill on the Bull Creek road; however, mining was never a factor in the economy.

Michael Summerow discovered sulphur springs on his land (formerly General Harney's), which he compared to the White Sulphur Springs.<sup>1</sup>

In March, 1872, a group was organized to drill for oil on ten acres of land on the west bank of Shoal Creek, for which they paid Governor Pease \$500 an acre, in gold. No oil, but coal was found at 14 feet.<sup>2</sup>

## AGRICULTURE

The early economy of Travis County depended entirely on agriculture. Farmers brought in for barter, cotton and corn, their chief crops, as well as pecans and pelts of bear, buffalo, and deer, trading them for staples at Austin's first stores. 1839-40, their first year, was good, and Joseph Duty had the first cotton gin in Travis County in 1840, at Webber's Prairie.

As the settlers spread out, the Steussy brothers built a dam near Barton Creek, where they had a flour and saw mill until



it was burned by raiding Indians. By August, 1840, cotton was picked for the first crop in the county.

There was diversification even then; James Smith and the Hancock family, east of Austin, were growing wheat successfully, as was John Caldwell, near Comanche. By 1843, the 30 acres of wheat at Smith's farm were yielding over 25 bushels to the acre. This was the time when the government group was gone from Austin; supplies were not sent in, so many vegetables were grown, also corn was doled out by the archives committee, as were the deer and buffalo meat the hunters brought in.

Cattle were put out to pasture; stocks in stores became scanty; shoes were being made by the settlers from the hides of deer and buffalo. The people were really pioneers during these discouraging days; women worked at their looms, weaving, spinning, and making clothes. Corn patches furnished them with food, such as meal, mush, molasses.

By 1845, the government group had returned, but farmers felt the damage from frost and freeze of April 16, which completely killed crops, then the grasshoppers did damage, followed by the locusts, and a devastating drought.

By 1850, times were better. Travis County had many resourceful men like ferryman Grumbles, who also had a corn field across the river, where he harvested about 65 bushels of corn per acre, and sold it for \$1 a bushel.<sup>3</sup>

Thomas F. McKinney had a flour mill on Onion Creek in 1852, and was training race horses, too. Corn was down to 25 cents a bushel. Then, the State Agriculture Society was organized in Austin on February 8, 1853.<sup>4</sup>

According to the *Texas State Times* of August 25, 1855, land on Onion Creek was selling from \$1 to \$10 an acre, unimproved, and \$7 to \$15, improved. By 1856, potatoes were selling for about \$4 a bushel; flour was \$4 a barrel, and lard 25c a pound.<sup>5</sup>

Travis County's first nursery was started by A. T. Kneeland with over 60,000 fruit trees.<sup>6</sup>

The panic of 1857 seemed to penetrate to Travis County; there were no crops, little feed, cattle were thin, and the winter of 1856-57 was their worst, with a fierce freeze leaving ice several inches thick. One man, George Paschal, was resourceful. He had the ice cut and buried for summer use.

The fall of 1856, preceding this freeze, had brought the

## History of Travis County

grasshoppers, who gorged on everything growing and green, devastating Travis County. In 1857, the black tongue killed many deer, and there was little feed, or food. The summer drought of 1857 was followed by six inches of rain in September. The good years were going, and fate was frowning.

Cattle were selling about \$6 a head, sometimes a little more. Land at Webberville and Onion Creek sold for about \$25 an acre. Flour cost \$14 a barrel; seed was scarce, and turnip seed cost \$4 a pound. Seed corn cost \$10 a bushel; some carted in from Mexico only cost \$3.50 a bushel.<sup>7</sup>

A local census of Travis County in 1860 showed 470 farmers, 3 ranchers, 46 stock raisers, 4 herders, and 3 shepherds. This census survey made by U. S. Marshal Samuel J. Wood showed only 47,220 acres of improved land in Travis County, with a total acreage of 1,297,313 acres.<sup>8</sup>

In 1869 and again in 1871, floods washed away many elm and cottonwood trees south of the river. By 1871, Jacob Stern had started a grain company. In 1873, grange was a new word, but in a few years, would be a forceful factor in elections.

In 1875, the Austin Nursery Company was started by A. M. Ramsey, and General John R. Baylor provided pecan trees for the city to plant at the capitol and the fair grounds. Fruit was fashionable that year in Travis County because William Davenport planted about 200 apple trees and 2,000 peach trees in his orchard on the river below Austin. The fashionable food was green grape pies; 19,745 of these pies were eaten during 1875, according to the *Daily Democratic Statesman* of May 23, 1875.

There were many mills in the 1870's. The Capital City Flour Mill was operated on Congress Avenue by the river in 1876. By 1879, there was a mill at Barton's, and Chambers' Mill, built at the site of the old Cross Mill, was bought for \$12,500, and had a four-story building at the dam across the Colorado River, costing about \$18,000.<sup>9</sup> Part of this mill still stood in 1960 at the foot of the Pleasant Valley Road, at the river, about where a new bridge has been built.

In 1877, the Austin Markethouse had butter for 15c a pound; eggs, 11c a dozen; potatoes, \$1.10 a bushel; and onions, \$6 a barrel.<sup>10</sup>

By 1880, the averages per acre in Travis County were: 20

bushels of wheat; 30 bushels of corn; 75 bushels of oats;  $\frac{3}{4}$  bale of cotton.<sup>11</sup>

At Fiskville, in northern Travis County, in 1883, E. W. Haller had an orchard with thousands of peach trees until about 1890, when a freeze killed them.

1883 was the year when 20,000 pounds of wool were shipped out of Travis County by Iglehart & Company.<sup>12</sup> Tomato canning was an industry in Austin that year, which employed about 70 people to process around 4,000 cans daily.<sup>13</sup> By 1899, the Austin Canning Factory, located east of the present American-Statesman building, employed about 40 people to can tomatoes and other vegetables.<sup>14</sup>

The Travis County Farmers' Alliance was holding secret sessions in 1886,<sup>15</sup> and there was being shipped out of the city an annual average of about 30,000 bales of cotton, 700,000 pounds of wool, 250,000 pounds of hides, and 75,000 barrels of lime.<sup>16</sup> In September, 1893, the cotton seed oil mill was started, at a cost of about \$75,000,<sup>17</sup> and the Austin Oil Manufacturing Company was chartered for about \$50,000 capital stock.<sup>18</sup> By 1895, this company was running 75 tons a day, in their \$75,000 plant.<sup>19</sup> The Travis County Farmers' Alliance was incorporated by 1894.

### CATTLE—CATTLE BRANDS

After the Civil War, about 1866, the cattle drives to market started and lasted about 20 years, when the advent of railroads furnished shipping. Cattle drives through Austin were a common sight, and the cattle bawled as they crossed at the two main crossings, Montopolis and Shoal Creek. A marker at Congress and Eleventh, at the south exit from the capitol grounds, commemorates the trail through Austin.

In the Austin area, the earliest cattle brand was that of Reuben Hornsby, as R H; and others were:

Thomas Hornsby in 1844, was using the brand .9

Joseph Barnhart, in 1845. had 2

(By 1848, counties in Texas began requiring registration of brands.)

















Ferdinand Wilhelm, in 1852—8

J. P. Kirk, 1860—C

J. D. McGary, in 1860—J




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J. D. Morrison, in 1861—  
Addison Smith, in 1867—  
A. J. Berrils, in 1869—  
R. W. Carley, in 1869—  
George and James Baker, 1870's—Lazy F—  
Isaac Meadin, in 1872—KE  
M. Danham, in 1874—  
J. C. Simpson, in 1874—  
W. S. Stanforth, in 1874—  
B. O. Stanley, in 1875—  
A. F. Anderson, 1876—  
C. C. Hamby, 1876—OS  
J. B. Thraxton, in 1878—  
John Cardwell, in 1879—  
J. M. Griffin, in 1879—  
W. A. Hardin, 1880—  
J. R. & W. B. Blocker, 1883—III  
John H. Milam, 1883—  
T. J. Lacky, 1889—


These cattle brands were used around Austin.<sup>20</sup> H. N. Dillingham, of Dillingham's Pasture, out on Walnut Creek north of Austin, used H N D as his brand; his brother-in-law used M O R, since it was the first part of his name, MORgan Wells. Dillingham's father, who furnished cattle for the men who fought in the grey during the Civil War, used O B brand because he bought a bunch of cattle from the owner of that brand, and in those days they often sold the brand too.

Another who remembers well brands used on the banks of the Colorado River around Austin, because he helped run the cattle and brand them, when he was a boy in the early teens, was Gustave Johnson. His father, Charles Johnson, used the old POTHOOOK brand in the sixties and seventies. This man was a freighter and helped move Sam Houston from Austin when the state seceded, and was the builder of the old Johnson place near Deep Eddy, now the American Legion home.

On the Oak Hill Road was the Walker Ranch in the nineties, and they used the BIRD brand, a bird with no feet—

And the Brown Ranch in Travis County used the **FRYING PAN** brand—

The Brown Ranch on the Bee Cave Road in the eighties and nineties was **J N B CONNECTED**—

H. D. Mildy, raised in Austin, used his brand here and in Oklahoma later—

**J E M** brand was used by J. E. Mowinckle of Oak Hill.

**J L B** brand was that of John Lawrence Buaas, at his ranch on the Pedernales River.

The Driskills and the Days used the Turkey Track brand.

Emmett White, formerly sheriff here, ran his cattle on the Oak Hill range, using **H A Y** for his brand, so his cattle had hay, one way or the other.

Abner McGill, one of Travis County's first county clerks, ran his cattle on the old Zilker tract across the river; he ploughed his land, carrying his rifle alongside him, in the days when Indians were raiding, and he used **I O U** for his brand! He also had a crossing named for him near where Johnson built his home out at Deep Eddy.

Henry Johnson used this brand at Bee Caves—

And when the Blocker, Day and Driskill firm had cattle going up the old Chisholm Trail, they had a road brand they used; at one time around 60,000 head of their cattle went up the trail with this brand—**7**—just a plain old **SEVEN**.

According to the *Austin Statesman* of May 25, 1883, there was excitement at the Congress Avenue bridge when about 600 head of cattle belonging to Drs. J. D. Fields and J. H. Coleman of Manor were being driven across; since there was a rise in the river it was not possible to swim them over, and while on the bridge the cattle met a mule-drawn wagon with a load of bricks from Butler Brick Yards. Stampeding ensued, a span of the bridge gave way; 185 cattle drowned; and once again the ferry was back in business.

In January, 1884, hundreds of stockmen met in Austin to discuss the fence-cutting problem.<sup>21</sup> The Day Land & Cattle Company was chartered with \$510,000 on March 24, 1884,<sup>22</sup> and by 1886, Dolores Land & Cattle Company was shipping via the railroad, and chartered for \$1,000,000.<sup>23</sup>

Probably the first cattle in Travis County were brought in

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by Peter Carr, the first mailman, who brought them from the coast country to his place at the norwestern part of Webber's Prairie, later known as Deatsville; he kept cattle there until about 1850.<sup>24</sup>

A later cattleman, Dr. William Copeland Phillips, came to Austin with his bride from Columbia, Missouri, in 1852, and his grandson, Bill Phillips, completed the century of cattleman of that family in Central Texas. This pioneer Texas doctor and cattleman built his first home west of where the Austin library is today, just about a century ago, and there his son John Hall Phillips was born.

Cattle and land were plentiful then, and Dr. Phillips in about twelve years accumulated around 35,000 acres of land, extending from the mouth of Clear Creek to where the Negro Deaf and Dumb Institute is now.

Cattle raising became his career, and he became a race horse enthusiast; he built a track at the site of the Institute, which was his place; he bought fame to the capital city, too, when he won the Westchester cup and a check for \$50,000. Today, you can still find traces of his old track. About 1864, Dr. Phillips built his home there, bounded on the north, south, east and west by his land and cattle.

Then his son, John Hall Phillips, and his wife moved out to the hills west of Austin, near the City Park, in about 1886, on the place later owned by their children, Bill Phillips and Mrs. Felicia Purnell. There, at the log cabin home built about 1864 with slave labor, they established a post office in the hills and Mrs. Phillips was postmistress. They named their post office Ogarita, an Indian name.<sup>25</sup>

Another place that is an outgrowth of the cattle era is the Trading Post of Wiley and Tom Johnson on the Bee Cave Road. It had its beginning in 1871 when their father, Will Johnson, moved there from his place on Onion Creek. He hauled coal and wood down the old wagon road to Austin, crossing the river at Dohme's ferry and at Barton's, and helped rope outlaw horses. For over 80 years, he was a cattleman and rancher where the wagon roads met at the site of today's Trading Post. His son, Wiley, opened the store at the crossroads, and across the road then were the corrals and barns where the ranchers penned their cattle overnight on the trail to Austin. To the



Trading Post in the past have come customers in wagons, buggies, and cars. The Johnsons knew all the cattlemen on the western range—Wash Hammett, Blue Hammett, Roy Kelso, Cal and Rob Roy, Dad Cade, Frank Hill, George Turner, etc.

The Trading Post's territory has become Texas; customers come from all over to hunt and fish, and headquarter there. Wiley Johnson is his own chamber of commerce and bureau of information; he knows where everything and everybody is in that hill country area, even to the fish and the game.

The cattle drives ended with the arrival of the railroads.

## TRANSPORTATION

One of the key contributions to city or county economy is transportation, and today in Texas, Austin is the center of a crossing of highways that were necessitated after the advent of the automobile. The wagoners of early Texas have been replaced by trucking companies, and trade and travel are on the land, waterways, and in the air in this century.

The expansion of the county's economy in 1839 was entirely dependent on transportation, and that necessitated roads.

Under an Act of the Congress of the Republic of Texas in 1836-37, the county courts were authorized and empowered to plan ferries and roads and appoint overseers.<sup>26</sup>

The Hunt and Randel map shows that the two roads to Austin from the coast, ended at Austin. But by 1838-39, Congress was planning a road from Bastrop through Austin to the Red River.<sup>27</sup>

In the new republic, the county courts were acting to provide roads, as was Travis County. Men between eighteen and forty-five years were required to work on the roads of their precincts, or "beats" as they were called in Travis County. Beat No. 1 started "where the road from Nashville to Austin 'strikes' the county line of Travis, on down to Congress Avenue, to the Colorado River, down the river to lower line of Dockrow League, to Onion Creek, and all north and northwest of this boundary."<sup>28</sup> Beat No. 2 was all of Travis County between Beat No. 1 and Walnut Creek. Beat No. 3 was all below Walnut Creek and above the lower line of Travis County, east of the Colorado River, within the county's boundary. Beat No. 4 was on the west side of the river above the lower line of Travis

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County and below Beat No. 1.

Transportation, like education, progressed slowly in those days, and this was a decided deterrent to economic progress. Travis County, on the farthest frontier of the new republic, was in a worse way than the other territories of Texas. Wagons were sent by the settlers to the coast for supplies needed for survival. Later, corn, cotton, hides and pelts were taken for trade. The pioneering padres often walked all the way from the Texas coast, and settlers came in wagons, or on horseback, with only the necessities. Oxen were used when horses and mules were not available. The trail they traveled from the coast country was dry and dusty in the warm weather and muddy mires in the winter. Crossing the streams was hazardous and all travel was tedious and tiresome.

Wagons with supplies often could not make it through to the central country, including Travis County, in the worst weather. Rafting on the rivers, especially during the spring rains, and rises, was perilous. After Austin became the county seat and the capital, transportation was somewhat improved. A road to the Bastrop County line from Austin was authorized on the west side of the river, and the following commissioners were named to "view out" the road: Thomas Simpson, Isaac Garsner, B. C. Robinson, L. S. Hancock, and James Haney.<sup>29</sup> A ferry was to be established on this road, with the charges to be 12½c for footmen, 25c for each wheel of all wagons, carts and carriages, 6¼c a head for horses and cattle, 3c a head for goats, hogs, and sheep.<sup>30</sup>

The men who were "ordered" to work on this road of Beat No. 1 were: John Bratton, John Bryant, Alfred Donnigan, George Bratton, Mr. Thorp, Mr. Soles, Mr. Eagon, Mr. Peyton, J. C. Tanahill, and a bridge was to be built across Walnut and Gilleland Creeks.<sup>31</sup> Road construction in early Travis County was the responsibility of the settlers, and the courts simply decreed that all persons who lived in the different beats were to work on the roads there.

On April 13, 1840, the court designated that work on the new road under Aaron F. Boyce was to be done by citizens from "Mainors" etc. Designated to "view out" a road from the city of Austin to Bastrop County line, were Jacob M. Harrell, Reuben Hornsby, Aaron Burleson, Elijah Durham, and Richard Loyd,

with Thomas Simpson to "cut out the road."<sup>32</sup>

Persons who lived in Beat No. 1, south of Pecan Street (now Sixth Street) worked on the road to San Antonio, and all living north of Pecan Street worked on the road to Nashville.

On June 2, 1840, the court in session, had a request from the citizens of Comanche (near the present site of Garfield) requesting a road on the east side of the Colorado River touching widow Burleson's (Moore's Crossing today) to the Colorado River and cross near the "upper corner of the Comanche tract through the town, and to intersect the Bastrop Road on the west side of the river above Captain Simpson's."<sup>33</sup>

The road from Durham's post office to Comanche came up before the court again on October 5, 1840, with road hands being assigned on this "crop road from Durham's post office to Comanche and thence to County line."<sup>34</sup>

By February 1, 1841, the court appointed Jacob Harrell, Reuben Hornsby, Richard J. Loyd, Aaron Burleson, and William Hornsby as "reviewers to mark out road on east side of river to Bastrop County Line."<sup>35</sup> Henry Jones was named overseer, and who was more capable of considering this road than the Burlesons and Hornsbys and Harrells who had made the trail up this way over the trace from Bastrop?

Even in the era of statehood, transportation was still a problem; on January 6, 1846, J. M. Harrell was appointed overseer of all streets in the city of Austin, since the "corporate authorities of the City of Austin have ceased to exercise their duties and have failed to work on or repair the streets of the city."<sup>36</sup>

Travel through Texas was still overland, and the military forces here after annexation, used road routes to the forts in Texas; a sign marks one in Travis County today, the Robert E. Lee Road, along the Colorado River on the south side. They crossed at the foot of Shoal Creek, at the shoals in the river, the old crossing, followed the river road to Barton Creek, and went west along the south bank of Barton, out to Fort Mason and points west.

A new road was authorized in Travis County on March 2, 1846, when the commissioners court met, from Stone's ferry on the west side of the river to intercept the ridge road near the Onion Creek crossing.<sup>37</sup> On October 13, 1846, the court appointed



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Washington Anderson, George W. Glasscock, Thomas A. Moore, W. W. Hornsby, A. Burleson, Joel Minor, and C. C. Cushman to lay out a road from Austin to Manchaca Spring; and another road from Austin to Post Oak Island by Matthew Wilbarger, James Manor, and Joseph Burnhart.<sup>38</sup>

The Mormons are credited with construction, in 1846, of one of Travis County's oldest roads to the northwest, the one that today is a scenic drive along Bull Creek to the Spicewood Springs Road, and which then led to a mill on Bull Creek used after the Mormon Mill washed away.

Again in 1847, the question of Austin's participation in the county's roads arose. Since the city was not included in road precincts of the county, the citizens who lived in certain areas of Austin were not doing any road work. On January 19, the commissioners court requested that those who lived west of Congress Avenue and north of Pecan Street, work on the road from Austin to the county line up Brushy Creek way. All who resided east of Congress Avenue were to work on road from city to lower county line of Travis County, and all west of Congress and south of Pecan Street to work on the road to Manchaca Spring.

On April 11, 1848, a road was authorized to the county seat of Williamson County, when that was laid out and established.

The court on April 2, 1849, authorized a road from Congress Avenue down Pecan Street by the arsenal (later Palm School) along the board avenue (East Ave.?) between the city lots proper and out lots; this to be a public highway from Congress Avenue to the river, with obstructions being removed. Those living in this district were the workers.<sup>39</sup>

Then, mileposts modernized the roads. The commissioners court, on February 19, 1851, directed the overseers to measure roads and set up mileposts. And a road was started to Hamilton Valley. On November 15, 1852, the Lockhart road by Stone's ferry was established, over "the road now traveled from Austin to Stone's Ferry, Thence along a road marked and cut out by S. Stone to the top of the hill immediately West of Mr. McCall's buildings, Thence on a straight line to a stone mound near the corner of Mr. Cruzeburn's field of broken ground, Thence to another stone mound to the top of hill east of L. S. Friend's buildings and near the line between said Friend and

T. F. McKinney, Thence along said line to a stone mound on the top of the hill south of Williamson Creek, Thence on a straight line to a point where the road marked by Messrs. Grumbles and Hall in the summer of 1850, enters the timber on Onion Creek, Thence along said road to the county line crossing first owned by S. Stone, then Dr. McCall's, then by Mr. Hopkins, then by Mr. McCall's, then by Mr. Cruesburn's, then by L. S. Friend, then by T. F. McKinney. Signed by L. S. Friend, Enoch Martin, James P. McKinney, and S. Stone."<sup>40</sup>

Another road authorized in 1852 was to run "from the center of Austin, up the Avenue from the center of the north side of the capitol square north, going along the east side of the square known as College Hill to the city limits and north to line between Travis and Williamson Counties." Reviewers on this road were Josiah Fisk, Enoch S. Johnson, P. W. Nowlin, J. Bennet, and James Doxy.<sup>41</sup>

Also, in 1852, a road was being reviewed from Austin to San Marcos via Stone's Ferry, and another in 1853 from Lockhart to Georgetown via Webberville ferry between John Caldwell and John Beck surveys to the prairie, to the San Antonio crossing at Cedar Creek near Shackelford's, and from the ferry passing John Meeks, along the divide between Gilleland Creek and the line of Wilbarger to the county line of Williamson near Ben Allen's.<sup>42</sup> Public highways were being designated; one was the road running down Pine Street (Fifth) directly to Main Street (Montopolis?) "to the edge of the post oak ridge," and intersecting the Austin-Bastrop Road at Patterson's.<sup>43</sup>

During 1853, many roads in Travis County were designated as public highways, including:

Road from Stone's Ferry via Manchaca to San Marcos	
Road from Austin to Manchaca	
" " "	to San Antonio by Grumbles' ferry
" " "	to San Antonio via T. F. Chapman's
" " "	to San Marcos via Stone's
" " "	to Lockhart, via Grumbles' ferry
" " "	to Lockhart via Stone's ferry
" " "	to Bastrop via Stone's ferry
" " "	to Georgetown via McKenzie's and Merrills
" " "	to Cameron
" " "	to Caldwell and Brenham
" " "	to Bastrop
" " "	to Walnut Creek via Montopolis
" " Webber's	to Lockhart via Comanche
" " "	to Georgetown

Another road designated as a public highway was the road

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from Austin to Hamilton Valley crossing Shoal Creek near Edwin Seiders (see Seiders Spring on U. S. Geol. Map) to Spicewood Springs, "to lean the strut" near premises of Martin James west on the road crossing Shoal Creek at present crossing "to bear up toward the mountains," . . . continuing up the foot of the mountains with the Indian trail (around Mt. Bonnell?) leaving George W. Davis on the east side and the Spicewood Springs on the west side, leaving also Mr. McKenzie's field on the east side, and seeking the Hamilton Valley road where "the same turns into the cedar brake."<sup>44</sup>

In 1857, the court changed the road through Half Acre, known as the Half Acre Road through Webber's Prairie to the Bastrop County line "so as not to go through building sites or fields," and it was established as a public road of the first class; and the old Half Acre road was discontinued.

Changes in a road could be requested by ten or more people, and the court appointed a commission to review the road.

By the 1860's, the Preston-Austin road ran from the Red River through Dallas, Waco, Georgetown to Austin, and the National Road through Indian Territory to join this road into Austin.<sup>45</sup> At Austin, the route on to San Antonio ran through Webberville and to the old San Antonio road, at Bastrop.

In 1871, the Austin-San Antonio road was changed, leaving the present road just south of a branch that crosses the road near A. P. Blocker's, by Tom Dieterich's land, passing through the farm of Mrs. Swisher, thence to a line between her land and asylum (deaf) land, crossing Bouldin's branch at the bridge (built by the military), then to Austin by most practical route.

By 1880, the Travis County Road & Bridge Company was organized, with James H. Raymond, president; J. W. Hannig, vice president; George B. Zimpelman, secretary-treasurer.

That the people were progressive was reflected in an enterprise during 1886. Loans by individuals were made to the county, until April 1, without interest, to permit construction of roads and bridges. Men making the loans were:<sup>46</sup>

John Bremond .....	\$500.
J. H. Raymond & Co. ....	500.
Nelson Davis Company .....	300.
State National Bank .....	500.
First National Bank .....	500.
City National Bank .....	250.
Robinson & Houghton .....	500.
W. H. Firebaugh .....	250.



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T. Philipson & Co. ....	150.
McKean Eilers & Co. ....	300.
John Orr .....	100.
S. W. French & Co. ....	400.
Calcasieu Lumber Co. ....	300.

In 1893, the County Road Association met in Austin on January 24, and a road convention was held on December 11-12, 1899.

Since its beginning, Travis County's commissioners in the four precincts have been in charge of the county roads and bridges, their building and maintenance, and county funds have been distributed by the court to each precinct in line with policy determined long ago, and a county engineer functions in all precincts. These funds were obtained by the means of a county tax, and in the first year 25c per \$100 valuation was collected for roads and bridges. This system provided roads for nearly fifty years. This rate fluctuated and in 1903 the legislature authorized Texas counties to issue bonds for public roads. Counties like Travis continued to bear the burden of building and maintaining roads that connected to form a state system.

The Federal Road Act of 1916 made it necessary to have a state department for highways in order to share in federal funds, and the State Highway Department was created by the 35th Texas Legislature in April, 1917, and the bill also authorized a license fee on automobiles for state funds for roads through appropriations by the Highway Department to counties. In 1915, the road from Austin to San Antonio was called the Post Road, and is believed to be the first paved road in Texas. It was built by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture or the Post Office Department. The first federal aid project in Texas was 25 miles of road from the Travis County line through Hays County to the Comal County line on the Post Road, completed in 1919.

### RIVER BRIDGES AND FERRIES

In the first days of Texas, many envisioned commerce and transportation from the coast via the rivers of the republic. Some boats made the trip up the Colorado River to Austin, as did the Kate Ward on March 6, 1846. This boat docked at Austin, where a landing had been built for the occasion.<sup>47</sup> On March 11, the steamer took excursionists up the river to Mormon Falls. Since the country was so sparsely settled and the trip so trying through the raft of drift, the trip was not repeated.

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Several formed companies and tried unsuccessfully to remove the raft from the river near Matagorda.

By the spring of 1840, the commissioners court authorized bids to be taken on bridges to be built on the road to Bastrop over Gilleland and Walnut Creeks. On September 8, 1840, Henry Jones presented his bill for building the bridge over Gilleland Creek, \$2,185, and the court authorized a \$200 draft as the first payment on it "out of the first money coming into the treasury after paying drafts numbered 1 to 5."<sup>48</sup>

At the June, 1840, term of court, a ferry was authorized at Montopolis, with Wesley Hunt as ferryman, and the road was designated over a route down Pine Street to "strike Broad Street of the town of Montopolis," and down Broad Street to Main Street in the same town of Montopolis, then along Main Street till it strikes the corner farm lots No. 6, No. 7, and to the lower line of the town, with the ferry to be placed at the river crossing near Comanche.<sup>49</sup>

Then, ferries were fashionable in Travis County and one of the storied ones was Stone's Crossing over the Colorado at the foot of Waller Creek, from 1846 to the 1880's. Samuel Stone settled on the south side in a log cabin for which he cut and carted the logs from oak groves nearby. The cabin had a dirt floor and outside, a la Big Foot Wallace, he used a large live oak tree for his smokehouse and hung the salted meats to dry in the high branches. Later, he constructed a cabin with wooden floors and, typical of the times, with the kitchen at the back. Samuel Stone was a builder and later put up a frame house, and mixed concrete for it. For this third home, he hauled lumber from Bastrop.

Stone had several children; the younger were Kate and Doc, who knew Austin in their childhood at the old ferry. From their swings in an old oak tree, they watched for the stage coach coming in from San Antonio, and when they heard its horn, they ran to meet it. The cow's horn blew when the stage arrived, and when it left. Also, they watched when General D. E. Twiggs camped near their place, to deal with some Delaware Indians, headed by Chief Delaware John.

On school mornings, the peacocks from the French Embassy across the river always wakened them early; Kate went to a girls' school, while her four brothers went to B. J. Smith's

school at Pecan and Lavaca Streets.

Kate, who was later Mrs. Boyce, danced on the large ferry boat, about 1857, at Stone's Ford; this boat was built by her brothers, particularly Samuel, Jr., "Doc," who was ferryman later. Samuel Stone, Sr., hauled the cedar for its construction by ox-drawn wagons from Webberville, and when the boat was built, they had a christening party, with dancing, to launch it. Two of the Stone's slaves made music, with a tambourine and a violin. Their ferry landing at the mouth of Waller Creek was in a tall timbered area, which all washed away when the dam broke in 1900.

Their boat was built about sixty feet long, and could carry a wagon drawn by two yoke of oxen, or two buggies and two horses. During flood time, or rises on the river, or if the wagon was weighty, the ferry took the cattle over, returning for the wagon. Charges were \$1 for a wagon and oxen or horses, 50c for a carriage and horses, two-bits for a rider on horseback; 12½c afoot. This ferry was operated until about 1886 when the free bridge was built at the foot of Congress Avenue. When Kate was sixteen, she saw her brothers, all four of them, off to the Civil War, and she and her mother met with others at the capitol to sew for their soldiers.<sup>50</sup>

About 1848, Jonah Fisk was attorney for the Austin City Corporation, and its Austin City Ferry at the foot of Congress.

In 1852, another ferry was licensed by the court to Thomas F. Chapman and James G. Swisher, east of East Avenue. Captain J. J. Grumbles, ferryman at the foot of the Avenue, built a log cabin east of Austin, which later was moved to the Palm place at 1401 San Jacinto Street.

At the February 23, 1853, term of Travis County court, rates for ferries in Travis County were set at:

Loaded large wagon and team .....	\$1.00
Unloaded .....	.50
2-horse wagon, loaded .....	.50
2-horse carriage and passenger .....	.50
1-horse carriage, cart, or wagon .....	.25
Man and horse .....	.10
Footman .....	.05
Single head of cattle .....	.05
Sheep, hog, or goat .....	.02½

And prices were doubled at night.<sup>51</sup> Every public ferry in Travis County, above Gilleland Creek, was assessed an annual fee of \$25, and \$5 for ferries below this point.



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The pontoon bridge built at the foot of Congress was short-lived; in October, 1870, a flood with a high of 36 feet, washed away the pontoon bridge, and Captain William C. Walsh ran the ferry again. Later, Mrs. Sarah D. Walsh was running a public ferry below the mouth of Barton Creek, and above the corner of stone fence on property of James E. Bouldin. The ferry at Webberville was run by F. L. and K. K. Rector.

By 1870, a dam over the Colorado River was being suggested, and Mayor John W. Glenn started a survey by the city engineer for a dam above or below Mt. Bonnell, to promote power; his idea was to channel the water through a canal to Shoal Creek.

In 1872, the city built a bridge over Shoal Creek on West Pecan Street, with the city building the approach on the east side and the county on the west side, which was outside the city limits.

The years have proved how wrong the comment was when the dikes on the Avenue were filled up, and the *Daily Journal* of December 29, 1873, commented, "Merchants on the east side (of the Avenue) will not be troubled again with overflow."

In Austin, a footbridge was built between Ash and Mulberry Streets over Waller Creek, and another over Shoal Creek on College Avenue, for travel up to the Texas Military Academy. In 1879, there was a new arch stone bridge at Bois d'Arc and Nueces Streets, over Little Shoal Creek,<sup>52</sup> and one on Linden Street over Waller Creek near the Blind Asylum. Then when the new bridge over the river at the foot of Congress Avenue was opened, the revenue was about \$20 daily.<sup>53</sup> In 1886, a new bridge was built over Waller Creek, on East Pine Street.

By June, 1886, the toll bridge at the foot of Congress Avenue was bought by the Travis County Road and Bridge Company was free, and there was a parade to celebrate the opening on June 18, and a barbecue and speeches.<sup>54</sup> This bridge served until about 1910. Also, the new Montopolis bridge was built, which washed away in 1935.

The Austin Steamboat Company was chartered for \$2,500, and its boats went from the foot of Congress Avenue to west of the drill grounds at Camp Mabry,<sup>55</sup> and the Belle of Austin was one of its boats.<sup>56</sup>

The idea of the dam came up again on January 1, 1888,

when A. P. Wooldridge had a letter to the editor in the *Statesman* about a dam for Austin. A few days later the Board of Trade met and put the plan in motion. John Pope was the engineer who surveyed the sites, with John McDonald and William C. Walsh as the committee to study the matter.

### STAGE LINES

When Austin became the seat of government in 1839, a stage was started by Starke-Burgess from Houston to Austin, using 36 horses and two drivers, making two trips weekly, of three days each, at charges of twenty-cents a mile.<sup>57</sup> By 1840, Smith & Jones stage was carrying mail and passengers.

In 1841, Bullock's Inn at Pecan and Congress was the stage stop, and also the agency for the Jones & Highsmith stage to Houston, leaving Austin each Thursday morning with mail and passengers, and reaching Houston by Tuesday afternoon.

In 1847, stagecoach lines from Houston to Austin charged \$15 for the trip and \$5 to San Antonio.<sup>58</sup> Often the stage was a wagon with a board and a blanket for seats. Until the arrival of the railroads in Austin, regular stage lines for mail service and passengers ran from Austin to La Grange and Columbus, to Brenham, and to San Antonio.

### RAILROADS

From its founding, Austin and Travis County advocated railroads. As early as the 1850's, citizens groups were meeting to try to promote railroads into the area. Particularly interested were merchants who were having supplies freighted in from the coast. In September, 1852, the Austin Railroad Association was formed, and on January 8, 1855, an Austin group met at the capitol building (the old building which is the site of the present city hall) to promote routing the railroad to Austin. By 1856, the H. & T. C. railroad was nearing Travis County and it was hoped the railroad would complete its lines from Hempstead to Austin in the early 1860's, but the Civil War stopped the plans.

Then, it was 1871 before the lines reached Austin and citizens went out to Robertson Hill (the hilly area around the French Embassy), and John M. Swisher drove the final spike of the track near the Avenue just north of the Raymond house, between Fourth and Fifth Streets, according to *Brown's Annals of Travis County*.

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It was December 26, 1871, when the train puffed into Austin, and the citizens had gathered at a small platform built for the occasion. The station, or stop, was originally located at the market square (shown on original map of layout of Austin), where it was planned to build a \$20,000 depot, but this plan did not materialize, and the union depot was built on Congress Avenue, at Cypress. There are still stories of "record runs" of 17½ hours from Houston to Austin, and how passengers ate breakfast in Austin and supper in Houston.

By 1873, the railroad ticket office was at the Avenue Hotel, and P. J. Lawless was agent, and his service to the H. & T. C. and I. & G. N. railroads totaled nearly 60 years in Austin.

Austin would have benefitted if one of the projects considered nationally had materialized, the Chihuahua-Pacific railroad. At that time, it was planned to name it the Great Southern Overland, from Austin to Topolobampo, Mexico, then a smuggler's rendezvous on the western coast of Mexico. On January 26, 1875, U. S. Senate Bill 1199, of the 43rd Congress, appropriated \$20,000 for surveying this line, with the hope of a route to China from Liverpool and for shipments from the United States and Mexico to European markets. When A. E. Owens, a civil engineer, spoke to Congress about it in 1876, he said "General Jack Hamilton in one of his eloquent addresses, said that 'Texas was calculated to give a Gibraltar to the South,'" although the railroad never materialized. The original dream of this railroad is credited to an American engineer, A. E. Stilwell, but the problem of crossing the Sierra Madre Mountains in Mexico was too great. It is interesting to know that in 1961 the 582-mile Chihuahua-Pacific railroad linking the Texas border and Mexico's western Pacific Coast was inaugurated.<sup>59</sup>

In Austin, in 1876, the I. & G. N. railroad had lines as far as Duval, in northwestern Travis County, and a concord coach brought passengers to and from Austin. When this railroad reached Austin on January 17, 1877, its depot was located near Pressler's garden (present site of Street Railway barns).

In 1875, about 30,000 cedar trees were rafted down the river from the hills and shipped out via the railroad.<sup>60</sup>

In 1877, a "refrigerating beer car" was brought in via the railroad, and there was interest in the Indian rubber material that made it air tight, as well as in the beer that was served to



visitors from the car, by Brueggerhoff and Heidenheimer.<sup>61</sup>

In 1880, the Austin and Northwestern railroad line was being built, and by 1888, plans were under way for the \$35,000 depot for the Missouri-Pacific Line.<sup>62</sup> It was about 1909 when the M-K-T railroad reached Austin.

The story of inter-city transportation and city streets is interwoven in the chapters dealing with different eras in Austin.

By 1873, a city ordinance of March 21, authorized grading of streets and curbstones constructed and cobblestone pavement placed on Congress Avenue. Owners of property on designated downtown streets were instructed to grade the sidewalks in front of their property as specified by the city, and to provide curbstones.

There were complaints about water running down Congress Avenue during rains "above the lots where Steiner's block now stands" past the old land office, across by the Avenue Hotel, down the alley to Pecan Street and over to Waller Creek. It was called "Rio Barbo," and John Stone supposedly sailed his skiff down to Waller Creek, where he crossed the Stone's ferry.<sup>63</sup>

The newspaper, on September 24, 1874, noted that people were waiting to cross the Avenue water, and that someone could have made money "renting out stilts."

By 1889-90, streets were listed in directories by numbers, elective office, for two years, to supervise surveys of city property, plans and work on streets, alleys, bridges, culverts, sewers, etc.

By 1889-90, streets were listed in directories by numbers, instead of original names, as:

First Street was Water; Second, Live Oak; Third, Cypress; Fourth, Cedar; Fifth, Pine; Sixth, Pecan; Seventh, Bois d'Arc; Eighth, Hickory; Ninth, Ash; Tenth, Mulberry; Eleventh, Mesquite; Twelfth, College Avenue; Thirteenth, Peach; Fourteenth, Walnut; Fifteenth, North Avenue; Sixteenth, Cherry; Seventeenth, Linden; Eighteenth, Chestnut; Nineteenth, Magnolia; Twentieth, Elm; Twenty-first, Palmetto; Twenty-second, Orange; Twenty-third, Maple; Twenty-fourth, Willow; Twenty-fifth, Sycamore; Twenty-sixth, Laurel; Twenty-seventh, Locust; and Twenty-eighth, Plum.

Running north and south from west boundary of Austin were streets named: Pecos, West Avenue, Rio Grande, Nueces,

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San Antonio, Guadalupe, Lavaca, Colorado, Congress Avenue, Brazos, San Jacinto, Trinity, Neches, Red River, Sabine, East Avenue, Medina, San Saba, Comal, Navidad, Lampasas, and University Avenue.

The office of street commissioner was created by the city council at its meeting on December 19, 1887, and Ed Creary was named to that office for two years.

## CHAPTER XIV

# *Religious Development in Travis County and Austin*

There is a monument on the east hill at Barton's Springs that probably records the founding of the first church in Travis County. In 1730, the Franciscan Fathers moved their missions to this location, before they were finally removed to San Antonio, in 1731. The old journals of these padres who brought Christianity and civilization to the Indians, tell of the fertile fields, game, and horses found in the Central Texas area, and their missions at Barton Springs were probably the first church structures in the Travis County area.

After Travis County and Austin were founded, the Presbyterians and Methodists started meeting as church groups. There seems to have been only one church in Austin, a frame one built in 1841.<sup>1</sup> According to Bonnell's *Topography of Texas*, a book published in Austin, in April, 1840, "A Presbyterian church has been commenced, and I understand the Methodists have one under contract."<sup>2</sup> By the end of 1845, congregations of Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians, Catholics, and Protestant Episcopalians were meeting. Amos Roark, a Presbyterian minister, in Austin in 1840, counted the citizens in a census which proved the population to be about 806.<sup>3</sup> Included were ten Baptists, ten Catholics, eleven Episcopalians, ten Lutherans, seventeen Methodists, twelve Presbyterians,—and two churches, the Methodists and Presbyterians, and others conducted services at the capitol.

By 1848, Rev. Daniel Baker, from Holly Spring, Mississippi, had a week-long meeting for the Presbyterians, and Robert H. Taliaferro was holding a meeting for the Baptists. That same year, the Union Sunday School had an annual meeting at the capitol, with James H. Raymond as superintendent, and Colonel William Kyle and John Raymond assisting. In 1849, a church



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in Travis County posted the following:

“Tobacco in Church  
Ye chewers of that noxious weed  
Which grows on earth’s most cursed sod  
Be pleased to clear your filthy mouths  
Outside the sacred House of God.  
Throw out your ‘plug and cavendish’  
Your ‘pig-tail’, ‘Twist’, and ‘Honey-Dew’  
And not presume to spit upon  
The pulpit, aisles, or in the pew.”<sup>4</sup>

The *Texas State Times*, December 23, 1854, says there were four new church buildings in Austin: Catholic, Cumberland Presbyterian, Episcopalians, and Methodist.

In 1875, there were complaints about hills in front of most of Austin’s churches, and the city graded them down in front of the new Presbyterian Church, St. Mary’s Catholic Church, St. David’s Episcopal Church, and the hill on Ash Street in front of the new German Methodist Church, near Millett’s residence.

### BAPTIST

When the Rev. R. H. Taliaferro came to Austin in 1847, he helped to organize the First Baptist Church, and their meetings were held in the capitol, and later at a house on the southwest corner of Lavaca and Twelfth Streets.<sup>5</sup> When this house burned, services were held on the third floor of Lamar Moore’s building at 700 Congress. Taliaferro was pastor during 1847-49, and G. G. Baggerly during 1850-51; Taliaferro again from 1852-55, and R. B. Burleson until about 1856. On March 13, 1855, Taliaferro purchased the lot at the northeast corner of Colorado and Mulberry Streets, and sold it to the church for \$310; there they built their first church in 1856, a two-story building facing west toward the new governor’s mansion.

According to the history of the First Baptist Church, in 1923, by Mrs. V. L. Brooks, “St. David’s Church stood on its hill where it stands now, and the little Catholic Church, now on Ninth and Brazos Streets, had already been erected. So far as I know there were no other large church buildings, though the Methodists, Presbyterians and Christians had houses of worship. Most of the other buildings were frame, log or adobe.”<sup>6</sup>

The Baptist Church organized its Sunday School about 1857, with D. C. Freeman as first superintendent.<sup>7</sup> It was the

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custom in their church which was built facing west, for the men to sit on the north side and the women on the south side. The bell, a gift of G. W. Glasscock, Sr., was in a belfry at the southwest corner of the building, and was also used as an alarm in Austin. Other ministers before 1900 were: Woodlief Thomas, and W. W. Gwinn, during the Civil War; Taliaferro, following them; Dr. H. W. Dodge, 1871-77; C. C. Chaplin, 1877-80; M. J. Breaker and G. W. Rogers, until 1883; Dr. Wm. Howard, 1883-88; R. B. Garrett, 1889-94; A. H. Mitchell until 1896; Dr. J. A. French, 1896-1908.

Many changes were made at the church before the century ended; in 1880, the roof was redesigned to include a tower, belfry, and gas lights instead of oil lamps; later, electric lights were installed.<sup>8</sup> This building was torn down in 1915, and the newer one constructed. The Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society organized at the home of Mrs. Anderson Harrell about 1875. Outgrowths of this First Baptist Church have been: the Mission Sunday School at 1100 East Second Street in 1886, which by 1888 became the Second Baptist Church; the South Austin Baptist Church, organized October 11, 1891, and dedicated at the 11 o'clock Sunday morning service on March 25, 1894, according to the *Austin Evening News* of March 24, 1894; the Hyde Park Baptist Church in March, 1894; the University Baptist Church in September, 1908.

It is interesting to note that Taliaferro also served the Webberville Baptists, whose church was named Macedonia Church.<sup>9</sup>

### Walnut Creek Baptist Church

This church was organized Sunday, June 28, 1856, by Rufus B. Burleson, pastor of Austin's First Baptist Church, and R. H. Taliaferro. The latter served as first pastor until A. W. Elledge assumed the office, since he lived closer to the church. The first baptisms were Sara and Barbara Wilkes, September 24, 1856, in Walnut Creek nearby. E. R. Gentry from Webberville was pastor in 1858. The Burdett school was the site of their church meetings until May, 1861, when their building on Walnut Creek, costing \$700, was ready. Rock walls were eighteen inches thick. In 1882, a wind whipped the roof off their building, and church services were held Summit school till it was repaired. In January, 1866, Thomas H. Bacon was ordained to their ministry and

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the first Sunday School was organized in December, 1867. In January, 1868, Rev. Bacon became the pastor, replacing E. E. Gentry, and followed by A. W. Elledge, R. H. Taliaferro again in 1875 until his death in December, 1876. Bacon served again, followed by A. Weaver, C. M. Hornberg, J. M. McFarland, Thomas Morrall, Marvin Ervin, A. J. Bensen, E. W. Holeman, Dr. J. B. Link, D. H. Le Sueur, T. J. McCandless, R. E. Milam, into the present century when the church celebrated its centennial.

### Friendship Baptist Church

Although Friendship Baptist Church is in Hays County, it started on October 19, 1856, as Barton Creek Church on Long Branch between Cedar Valley and Fitzhugh. In December, 1860, this church split, and part of it went to the Shiloh School near Oak Hill. In July, 1861, they started their rock church, which was not finished until 1868. In 1870, they took the name of Friendship Baptist Church, and the other group remained the Barton Creek Baptist Church.

Many Baptist Churches in Travis County started in the 1800's, as the Macedonia Baptist Church in Webberville, 1851; Onion Creek Baptist Church, 1857; East Avenue Baptist Church, 1886; Congress Avenue Baptist Church, 1889; Creedmoor Baptist Church, 1890.

### Ebenezer Baptist Church

In 1875, this congregation met at the home of Mrs. Eliza Hawkins, 1104 East Tenth Street, in an organizational meeting by Rev. C. Ward. Their church was built in 1884 at the corner of Tenth and San Marcos Streets, and their new church in 1955 was built at the same site. Their pastors during that century included Rev. Ward and E. S. Corn, 1876; Andrew Herbert, 1876-1883; Chester Anderson, 1884-1885; C. P. Hughes, 1886-1888; A. W. Moss, 1889-1891; Lee Lewis Campbell, 1892-1927.

### CATHOLIC — St. Mary's Cathedral

It was 1852, at the time the Capitol was being built, that St. Patrick's Church (now St. Mary's Cathedral) was constructed at Brazos and Ash Streets, northeast corner. One of the first priests to visit Austin was Father J. M. Odin, on November 29, 1840. (By 1847, he was named as the first Bishop of Texas, at Galveston). On this visit he stayed at the Thompson Hotel, and later was a guest of the French minister, de Saligny, a fellow countryman. Fr. Odin served as chaplain for the senate, during



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the month he spent in Austin, and bought lots for a church, Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 in Block 28, for \$366. Later Lot 4 in the same block cost him \$40. He began a drive for funds to build a church and convent and received lots 3 and 4 in block 62 and de Saligny gave him nearly three acres of land. On December 21, Fathers Timon and Stehle joined him in Austin, and, according to Father Odin, these were the only two priests he found in the Republic of Texas when he arrived in 1840 at Galveston. By 1861, when Bishop Odin went to New Orleans as Archbishop, he had managed to save the two missions in San Antonio, San Jose and Immaculate Conception, that in 1830 were on the banks of Barton Springs in Austin, before being moved to San Antonio.

In the 1840's, visiting priests came to Austin from the coast country. Father J. A. Jacobs made the trip often with Father Joseph Anstaett in 1848-1849, and with Father Michael Calvo in 1850-1851, and later Father Ellinger. A priest from San Antonio came to Austin occasionally after visiting Seguin, and on May 27, 1851, the Austin parishioners petitioned Bishop Odin for a priest to be assigned to Austin, particularly an Irish priest, because most of the first Catholics in Austin were Irish. Their petition said, "This city is improving rapidly and our intentions are to build a church in this place if we can get a clergyman to stay amongst us."<sup>10</sup>

In the shadow of the new Capitol being built, Father Michael Sheehan, first resident priest in Austin, began building the church at the northeast corner of Brazos and Ash Streets. The first recorded baptism at the new St. Patrick's Church was on October 17, 1852, of Lucy Catherine, daughter of James and Mary Ann Brady. Many of the soldiers stationed in Austin after Texas became a state, served under General Wm. S. Harney, and on April 13, 1855, Father Sheehan was appointed visiting chaplain at Fort Belknap, also under General Harney, and became resident chaplain there in 1857. Father Stephen Mackin served Austin's St. Patrick Church from 1857-1861, during the days of secession and Civil War. He too knew the military, since General Albert Sidney Johnston lived close by, at 206 East Ash.

When Rev. Michael Prendergast became pastor of St. Patrick's in 1861, the tense times of the Civil War had become tempestuous. Assistants were Father Anthony M. Faure, Father

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Victor Gury and Father John T. McGee, until 1864. When Bishop Odin became Archbishop of New Orleans in 1861, he was followed by Bishop Claude M. Dubuis, and Father Nicholas Feltin became pastor at St. Patrick's, from 1864-1874. During his term, his sister, Mother Andrew Feltin, started the first parish school and convent near the church. These Sisters of Divine Providence were in Austin for about seven years, until about 1872, when the Sister of the Holy Cross came. The foundation was started for the church at Tenth and Brazos Streets by Father Feltin. His assistants were Fathers John Gaellet, 1865; Martin Weinzacpfeln, 1866-1867; Louis Jos. Barbarin, 1868. It was in 1866 that Germans in the parish succeeded in having the name of the church changed. In 1872, Father Sorin came to Austin from Notre Dame to acquire land for the start of St. Edward's College, and the coming of the congregation of the Holy Cross to Austin, in 1874, during the pastorate of Father Dan Spillard, and Father John Lauth, assistant. The foundation of the church started by Father Feltin was torn out and building began on the new church. During 1874, the cornerstone was blessed, and the cemetery, Mount Calvary, dedicated.

Holy Cross priests John Lauth, ..... Robinson, and Jacob Lauth all served St. Mary's. as well as the many missions: Bastrop, Elgin, Georgetown, Pin Oak, Rockdale, Round Rock, Taylor, Temple; and the Sisters of the Holy Cross started teaching in the parish school.

During the rest of the century, the following Holy Cross priests served at St. Mary's: Fathers Peter Lauth, J. B. Scheier, Peter J. Franciscus, F. Malloy, P. J. Hurth, J. M. Toohey, John C. O'Keefe, Michael Lauth, J. D. Coleman, D. J. Haggerty, N. C. Warken. On April 20, 1884, the new St. Mary's Church was dedicated, and in 1962, the centennial celebration took place under the leadership of Father Francis W. Sullivan, C.S.C., pastor.

### CHRISTIAN — Central Christian Church

When this church started in 1847, it was called the Church of Christ and later, the Christian Church of Austin.<sup>11</sup> Under the leadership of Brother Sam Giles and ..... Rutherford, there were ten charter members: James Caulfield, Esthar Durham, Brother Lowrance, Brother McShan, William Simpson, his wife, Permelia, Elizabeth Smith, Sarah D. Walsh, Thomas Wood, and his wife, Sarah. It was September, 1850, before the actual or-

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ganization of the church was completed, and by 1852, meetings were held at a school; like many of the early churches, they had no permanent pastor.

In 1853, they bought the building at the northeast corner of Cedar and Congress which had belonged to the Methodists. After the Civil War, they had services at this log building on the east side of the Avenue, and in 1867 built their building as the Church of Christ on Lot 6, Block 99, at Colorado and Hickory Streets, the present site of the Federal building. In 1898 they constructed a better building. Their ministers included: W. H. D. Carrington, 1867-1874; W. J. Jones, P. B. Dawson, Brother Ellis, A. C. Lawson, A. P. Aten, F. W. Pattie, R. M. Gano, T. P. Haley, W. E. Hall, and Dr. J. W. Lowber who built the new building in 1898, and installed a pipe organ, to close forever the controversy over having an organ in church. This new church had cornerstone ceremonies on November 3, at their site at Eighth and Colorado Streets, according to the *Austin Tribune* of November 4, 1898.

This church was incorporated as the Christian Church of Austin on February 5, 1891. Prior to that, in 1888, two congregations evolved from this group, the Central Christian Church and the University Church of Christ. The latter group met in 1888 at 1014 East Seventh Street. In 1894 the Church of Christ congregation was meeting regularly.

During Dr. Lowber's term, in 1905, the Texas Bible Chair was started close to the University of Texas campus, with Rev. Frank L. Jewett as director. Before Dr. Lowber's pastorate ended in 1909, the Hyde Park Christian Church started at Avenue D and 42nd Street.

In 1924, a new church site at Twelfth and Guadalupe Streets was bought, and the present Central Christian Church was built and dedicated on November 24, 1929. Other outgrowths of this church have been the Mission at Eighth and Blanco Streets, the Canterbury Street Christian Church, later called First Street Christian Church, a Negro Christian Church, South Austin Christian Church, and the University Christian Church.

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Austin was the location of the first Christian Science Church in Texas in 1889.<sup>12</sup>



CHURCH OF CHRIST — St. John's United Church of Christ

This church, located about seven miles east of Pflugerville, was started January 6, 1878, and has celebrated its 85th anniversary.<sup>13</sup>

EPISCOPALIAN — St. David's Church

In 1840, and again in 1841, Rev. Caleb S. Ives held meetings of the Protestant Episcopalians in Austin.<sup>14</sup> Then Edward Fontaine, former secretary to Lamar, wrote to Lamar on April 21, 1841, from Gay Hill, "In Austin, there is no minister of the gospel, and the people are truly as a flock without a shepherd,"<sup>15</sup> and he wrote of his intention to be a minister. In 1845, Revs. Benjamin Eaton and Charles Gillette found little activity in the Austin group. In 1847, Mr. Gillette was asked to organize a parish, which was called Christ Church, but Gillette did not stay in Austin. On December 15, 1848, he returned with Bishop George W. Freeman. Then in 1851, Edward Fontaine returned and gathered the group of Episcopalians together and organized the Church of the Epiphany; first meetings were at the Swisher house, later at the Capitol, and at the northwest corner of Eighth and Congress, upstairs. By May, 1852, the Church of the Epiphany was a reality. On April 7, 1853, the cornerstone of the church was placed and the building was finished in 1855. Kerosene lamps furnished lighting then, and the church was consecrated as the Church of the Epiphany on Easter Sunday, May 8, 1855. Then, Fontaine found his church embroiled in the sentiments of slavery and later secession, and in April, 1856, part of the group separated and started Christ Church, and Rev. Gillette returned to Austin on December 20, 1856, to be its rector, holding services in the courthouse. In 1859, Fontaine left Austin; thus one group had a church and no rector and the other a rector and no church, so both merged to form St. David's in July, 1859. During the Civil War, sympathies were separated again; Bishop Gregg and many of the church with the South, and Rev. Gillette and others with the North. Dissension resulted, and by 1864, Gillette resigned, but was recalled in July, 1865, and Bishop Gregg moved to San Antonio, and the following rectors served until the century ended: Rev. Benjamin A. Rogers, 1866-75; then Rev. Rogers, and the church was remodeled; and Thomas Booth Lee, 1875-1912.

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### JEWISH — Temple Beth Israel

Temple Beth Israel celebrated its diamond jubilee in 1951.<sup>16</sup> On September 24, 1876, the Israelites of Austin met in an organizational meeting at the Odd Fellows Hall, then the second floor of the building at the southeast corner of Sixth and Congress. Congregation Beth Israel was established with Henry Hirshfeld as the first president; P. de Cordova, vice president; H. Hellman, treasurer; T. H. Philipson, secretary. On May 26, 1877, the site at Eleventh and San Jacinto Streets was purchased. Dr. Gluck served the group as leader for three months in late 1877, and started the first Sunday School with Sigmund Philipson as superintendent. By October 20, 1879, they applied for a charter, with seventeen signers, including Henry Hirshfeld, first president, Hermann Hellman, successor to him; Phineas de Cordova.

According to the *Austin Daily Statesman* of Sunday, June 1, 1884, services were still being held at the Odd Fellows Hall, and the first services in the new Temple Beth Israel were during the holidays of 1884; Tobias Schanforber was their first rabbi in the new synagogue. The first marriage there was in March, 1885, of Goldye Melasky and Elias Krohn. In 1886, Dr. A. R. Levy was rabbi and confirmed the first confirmation class, including Rosa Hirshfeld, who was later Mrs. William Frees. By April, 1892, Rabbi Aaron Levy served the congregation, and the Ladies' Auxiliary Society was started. At the end of the century, in 1899, Joe Koen served as president of the congregation, for over forty years. The 1900's saw many changes, gas lights replaced by electric lights and chandeliers, heating was installed, the building was remodeled, there were new curbs and sidewalks, and a pipe organ. The section of Oakwood Cemetery belonging to this group dates back to 1866.

In 1929, the Hillel Foundation was started on the University campus.

### Congregation Agudas Achim

Congregation Agudas Achim started in 1914, meeting at members' homes, as I. Frank, on First Street, and I. Laibovitz, on Seventh Street; then at the Odd Fellows Hall at Seventh and Congress, and at Seventh and San Jacinto, southwest corner, in about 1922. The congregation was organized about 1924; the group was first chartered on February 16, 1924, and Jim Novy is today the last living charter member. In 1930, the congrega-

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tion moved to their building at 909 San Jacinto Street. I. Cohn was the congregation's first president, which was a lifetime office, and Jim Novy served as vice president, and was instrumental later in making the offices two-year terms. They have had their own cemetery in Austin Memorial Park since 1933. Novy served as chairman of the building committee for the 909 San Jacinto site (which is now part of the new U. S. Post Office being built), and again in 1963 is chairman of the building committee for the new synagogue at 4300 Bull Creek Road.<sup>17</sup>

### LUTHERAN — St. Martin's Lutheran Church

St. Martin's Lutheran Church started in 1883, in March, when Rev. Henry Merz organized the congregation and bought the first church site at 106 East Thirteenth Street, for \$1,600. Cornerstone ceremonies were on December 21, 1884, and the church was dedicated in April, 1885. Services were held in this church until 1929, when the church at Congress Avenue and Fourteenth Street was built during the pastorate of F. G. Roesener. St. Martin's Church has its third church at San Antonio and Fifteenth Streets, since 1960. Succeeding Rev. Merz, their first pastor, were: Rev. E. F. Metzenthin, 1886-1894; Rev. Wilhelm Bunge, 1894-1895; Rev. John Haideo, 1895-1898; Rev. O. W. Hartman, 1898-1904. In the cornerstone of that first historic church northeast of the Capitol were the words: "Deutsche Evangelische Lutherische St. Martin's Kirche."

### St. Paul's Lutheran Church

This church started in 1891, when Rev. Herman Kilian came from Serbin, and with his brother, G. A. Kilian, organized the church group at their first services. It was 1893 before the church had a permanent resident pastor, and dedicated their first church at Red River and Thirteenth Streets.

By 1904, the church was at the site at Red River and Sixteenth Streets, and they built their second church there under the leadership of Rev. K. G. Manz. For the past twenty years, Rev. Albert Jesse has served as pastor, the last four years being at their new church at 3501 Red River Street.

During this century, their Lutheran Concordia College has been established, and their St. Paul's grade school has been a part of Austin's educational system.

### Gethsemane Lutheran Church

On December 12, 1868, Swedish Lutheran Church services



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were held by Swedish immigrants in Austin, which were the first services of their denomination held in Texas.<sup>18</sup> In the annals of Travis County, it is noted that the First Swedish Lutheran Church was being built at Ninth and Guadalupe Streets, near the site of the Austin Library, in 1869, with the committee being composed of Charles Johnson, C. W. Berryman, A. B. Palm, C. J. Dukey, and R. E. Stromberg.<sup>19</sup> In the late 1870's, L. A. Hokanson was their leader, and in 1882, they were seeking another high spot, and purchased the property at the southwest corner of Congress Avenue and Cherry Streets for \$1,600, and built the church there that was dedicated on November 1, 1883. They had sold their small church at Guadalupe and Ninth Streets for \$900 to the African Methodist Church, and had been meeting in Professor Bickler's Academy and their pastor was Rev. J. A. Stamline. In the building of their new church, they used stone from the Capitol, which had burned, and their church cost only \$6,500.<sup>20</sup> When the state building program expanded to include this site, the congregation built a new church at 201 West Wonsley.

### **New Sweden Lutheran Church**

This church was organized in 1876, with the first services in the homes of members and in the school. Later, a small stone church was built in 1879, about ten miles west of the present church. In 1923, a newer church was built, during the term of Dr. A. L. Scott. Among their ministers have been the following: Martin Noyd, J. A. Stamline, Gustaf Berglund, L. W. Gullstrom, C. P. Rydholm, Fred Olson, and A. W. Almquist.

### **Lund Church**

The Lund Church was having services in 1893, at the school in 1896, and the church was organized in 1897, by Dr. John A. Stamline, and their church was built in 1908.

### **Pflugerville Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church**

This church was organized in 1874 with the congregation meeting first at the Henry Lisso farm, with the Rev. F. Ernst as first pastor. He was followed by Rev. F. Jesse, also in 1874. In 1875, Rev. Wm. Pfennig was minister and the first church was built. Rev. Theo Uhdaw served in 1881; Rev. H. Daude, 1884-1887; Rev. A. Lettermann, 1887; Rev. A. Hartmann, 1897-1898; and Wm. Flachmeier, 1899.

Other Lutheran churches in the county before 1900 included

the German Lutheran Church of Decker.

#### METHODIST — First Methodist Church

The Methodists were one of the first church groups in Austin. In December, 1839, Rev. John Haynie held services in the Capitol, and organized a congregation.<sup>21</sup> He also established Haynie's Chapel, on the Bastrop Highway, near the present Bergstrom Air Base. Haynie lived near there with his son-in-law, John Caldwell; in 1840, he was the circuit riding Methodist minister for Travis and Bastrop Counties,<sup>22</sup> and in 1841, Josiah W. Whipple replaced him.<sup>23</sup> The first quarterly meeting of the Methodist Church in Austin was conducted January 18-19, 1840, by Rev. Robert Alexander. When camp meeting time came in 1840, they met at Gilleland Creek on the west branch, in a setting of elm trees, near Webberville, and this place, Puckett camp grounds was a favorite place for their meetings, which were an annual tradition, after harvest time, until the Civil War. The arbor was built of brush, with log benches; meetings usually lasted a week, or sometimes just a long weekend, from Thursday through Sunday.

In January, 1842, the quarterly meeting was held in Austin, with Revs. John Clark, T. A. Morris, and Josiah W. Whipple.<sup>24</sup> In 1846, camp meeting was in September, and during this year Homer S. Thrall started the church building at the northeast corner of Congress and Cedar, which he dedicated on December 19, 1847. It was "the first and only church building standing at Austin prior to 1851."<sup>25</sup> Services were at this site until 1853, when the Christian Church bought the building. The *Texas State Gazette* of December 9, 1854, wrote: "The ladies of the new Methodist Church gave a supper on December 1, 1854." This new church was at the northeast corner of Mulberry and Brazos Streets. In 1855, camp meeting was in the first week of October; in 1859, it was held in late July near Fiskville,<sup>26</sup> and in 1860, in October, near Walnut Creek, with Rev. J. W. Whipple.

After the Civil War, their church was called Methodist Church, South, or Tenth Street Methodist Church, where they had a new building in 1885, meeting there until 1923, when their new church at Twelfth and Lavaca was built.

#### University Methodist Church

Brown, in his *Annals of Travis County*, says that after the Civil War, Northern Methodists, under the leadership of George

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W. Honey, (who later was state treasurer and in difficulties during reconstruction era), built a church at 24th and Whitis Streets, northwest corner.<sup>27</sup>

In 1887, it was decided to start a university church for the northern part of Austin, and Dr. W. W. Pinson, pastor of the Tenth Street Methodist Church, helped to obtain Honey Chapel. Pastors were: J. E. Stovall, followed by F. E. Hammond, E. D. Mouzon, G. Carroll Rector, S. W. Thomas, E. L. Shettles, E. S. Jackson, and Clyde Garrett.

By 1891, the church was in a new building at 24th and Nueces Streets, and by 1909 it was the University Methodist Church at its present location.

### Central Methodist Church (Swedish)

Rev. C. E. Charnquist, who came to Austin in 1871, organized a group for a Swedish Lutheran Church, which ultimately became a Swedish Methodist Church, after he was ordained a Methodist minister, and assigned to the Swedes in Texas. The first Swedes in Austin to join the Methodist Church were C. Charnquist, S. A. Lundell, C. J. Swan, Mathias Goldstein, Josef Ledin, Johannes Johnson, and wives. These were the charter members of the Swedish Methodist Church organized December 11, 1873. Meetings were held in homes, but the group bought a lot on "Swede hill" for \$450, and their new church at Fifteenth and Red River Streets was built and dedicated on Easter Sunday, 1874.<sup>28</sup> Pastor V. Vitting replaced Charnquist in 1880, and the group became Northern M. E. Church instead of Southern. Following Vitting were these pastors: P. A. Juhlin, S. L. Carlander, A. J. Gustafson, Nels Eklund, O. E. Olander, B. Howe, and K. C. Norberg.

In 1898, Pastor Olander bought the site at 13th and Colorado Streets for \$2,500, and the church was constructed and dedicated on May 10, 1898. Many improvements were made, and a pipe organ added, until the church, in the path of the state building program, moved to its later location in the present century.

### Wesley Chapel M. E. Church

This church, which celebrated its 98th anniversary recently, was organized in the basement of the Tenth Street M. E. Church, on March 4, 1865, by Rev. Jos. Welch. The cornerstone of its church at Ninth and Neches Street was laid in 1867, and in



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1882, they built a newer church at the same site. In 1931, a new church was built at 1164 San Bernard Street, and ministers who served their church until 1900 were: Isaac Wright, 1866-1868; John Boyd and Spencer Hardwell, 1869-1873; B. F. Williams, 1874-1875; Samuel Gates, 1875-1876; C. L. Madison, 1876-1878 and 1879-1881 and 1891-1893; Daniel Gregory, 1878-1879; A. R. Norris, 1881-1883; Harry Swann, 1883-1885; Mack Henson, 1885-1889; P. M. Carmichael, 1889-1891; Andrew Foster, 1893-1895 and 1896-1897; John T. Gebbong, 1895-1896; A. M. Mason, 1896; G. R. Bryant, 1897-1900.

Other Methodist Churches organized in the county before 1900 were the Decker Methodist Church.

The African Methodist Church had its first building at Ninth and San Antonio Streets, with a school between this church and the Negro Baptist Church at Ninth and Guadalupe Streets. Abe Shaw, a resident of Austin for nearly ninety years, remembers the children running rabbits up and down the hill-sides of Wooldridge Park. This Negro Methodist Church had a camp meeting in the summer of 1875 and set up sixty tents, and moved some old street lamps to the site about three miles west of Austin. Rev. Samuel Bates was their leader, according to the *Daily Democratic Statesman* of August 17, 1875. Was this the same group who as the African Methodists bought the small Swedish Lutheran Church where the present city library is? Also, in 1879, the church referred to as the Colored Methodist Church was attracting crowds with its old-fashioned plantation revival, as told in the *Daily Democratic Statesman* of April 4, 1879. In early 1883, there was a fire at the African Methodist Episcopal Church, where they had a New Year's watch party the night before. This church was then southwest of the Swedish Lutheran Church at the library site.

Since the records of many of the early churches have been destroyed, it is not possible to ascertain if the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church at 1105 East Tenth Street evolved from this group.

At Manor, the Methodist Church started in 1854 in a school about three miles from Manor.

The Union Church was started in Manor in 1857, when the Parsons Masonic Lodge gave \$200 to start the church. There was also a Manor Baptist Church in those first days.

## MORMONS — LATTER-DAY SAINTS

This group was at Fort Coleman and around Webberville and Hornsby Bend during the late 1830's, and when Austin became the capital they moved to the site below Mt. Bonnell called Mormon Springs or Falls, where they built a mill. They built Austin's first jail, and their church services were held at the Capitol, under Elder Lyman Wright, according to the *Texas Democrat*, June 10, 1846.

### First Presbyterian Church

Rev. Wm. M. Baker preached to this group on Sunday, May 26, 1850, at the Capitol, and their church group was organized. By March, 1851, their building committee was composed of Dr. S. W. Baker, James H. Matthews, James G. Swisher, Nat Townsend, and Thomas H. Jones, and by August, 1851, their first services were held in their church at Bois d'Arc and Lavaca Streets, northeast. Services were suspended during the Civil War. The congregation divided during the war, Rev. Baker resigned, and Rev. Thaddeus McRae became pastor. In 1872, Rev. Edward B. Wright became pastor and served for over 40 years, and their church building dates back to 1874, when it was started. Money-making projects went on at all the churches, and the First Presbyterians, who were building in 1875, had a spelling school and dewberry and ice cream festival that spring, and according to the paper, the ladies at Rev. Wright's church had a "rubbing and scrubbing" party with "soap and water" in 1875.<sup>31</sup> In 1963, the church has a new building at Bull Creek Road and Jackson Avenue.

### First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterians were one of the first church groups meeting in Austin, with Reverend W. Y. Allen and James Burke, and they met at Bullock's in October, 1839. Soon they they began building their church at the southeast corner of Bois d'Arc and Lavaca Streets. Members cut trees, and by 1841 they had a building and roof.<sup>30</sup> In 1844, a windstorm ruined their building. In 1848, Rev. Daniel Baker, of Holly Spring, Miss., was conducting services for them.<sup>31</sup> The *Texas State Times* of December 23, 1854, told of four new church buildings in 1854, Catholic, Episcopalian, Methodist, and Cumberland Presbyterian. Another church was built in 1892. Amos Roark, of this church, took Austins' first census.

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### First Southern Presbyterian Church

Although the Presbyterians organized in Austin in 1839, this group met in homes and at the Capitol until 1872, when their church was built at Brazos and Eighth Streets, and according to the *Daily Democratic Statesman* of September 19, 1874, this church had the first slate roof in Austin. Among their ministers were Samuel A. King, A. A. Porter, Dr. John Grasty, Dr. Josephus Johnson, Dr. Dougald Neill McLaughlin, Dr. Angus McLeod, Dr. W. A. Minter, and Dr. R. K. Smoot, who served as pastor from about 1877 to 1905. During his term, the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, which had started about 1874, became a reality. In this century, the First Southern Presbyterian Church continues at its central site in a newly-remodeled building.

### University Presbyterian Church

This group started in 1893 and continues near the campus of the University of Texas in their building constructed about 1926.

### Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

It was about 1874, Rev. R. K. Smoot and Dr. Robert L. Dabney started Austin's School of Theology. About 1876, Mrs. Rebecca Stuart Red had founded the Stuart Seminary; when it closed in 1899, it became the property of the Presbyterian Synod, as did the Austin School of Theology in 1895. These two were merged and in 1902, under Dr. Smoot, the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary began at the site of Stuart Seminary in East Austin, and about 1905-1906 moved to its present site.

Another minister who served the Presbyterians in Travis County was J. H. Zivley, who settled near Bluff Springs with his family and served as a Presbyterian minister for about twenty-five years.

The Salvation Army began in Texas in 1889, in Dallas, and their group in Austin a little later.



## CHAPTER XV

### *Historical Facts and Figures*

Population, Fashions, Historic Homes, The Arts, Social  
and Fraternal Organizations, Recreation, Folklore

#### POPULATION

In 1840, F. Le Clerc, chief physician at the hospital at Tours, France, wrote President Lamar regarding a book he was writing on the Republic of Texas, after his nine-month visit to Texas in 1838. He was dedicating his book to Lamar, and asked "the cypher of population in 1838."<sup>1</sup>

The cypher of population was:<sup>2</sup>

	Austin	Travis County
1840 .....	856	
1850 .....	629	3,138
1860 .....	3,494	8,080
1870 .....	4,428	13,153
1880 .....	11,013	27,028
1890 .....	14,575	36,322
1900 .....	22,258	47,386

#### FASHIONS

The clothes of the 1840's and 1850's were homespun, but the elegant era began with the 1850's. Ladies wore four flounces, with bonnets and brocades, but no coral jewelry.<sup>3</sup> Ten years later there were new colors advertised, as Lucifer color. There was a silk called Coraile, which was good looking under gaslight, and there were Eugenie collars and matelot.<sup>4</sup>

Ladies liked the fashions of the 1880's, with lace nun's veiling, velvets and gimps.<sup>5</sup> Colors in dresses then were "indigo blue, lead grey, Indian red, and licorice brown."<sup>6</sup> Straw bonnets had wheat ears and a black digrette. "A novelty in stripes is reported. They are arranged like the black and white keys of a pianoforte."<sup>7</sup>

Austin's women were "unbonneting" since it became out of style to wear bonnets or hats on many occasions. Hats were decreed out of fashion at the opera, and especially were Gainsborough hats outlawed.<sup>9</sup> Thus began the era of informality that still characterizes Austin. And no one walked any more—one either rode in a buggy or a carriage.

Then, the styles of the nineties were starting, wasp waists, fitted bodices, puffed sleeves, full skirts. For the men, there were sack suits, selling for \$11.25 and \$13.75. "Child-kilts" were advertised, and apparel for the seven ages of man: child, at school, young man in society, busy clerk, sensible mister, smooth politician, and grand old man.<sup>9</sup>

As the century closed, feminine fads included the demi-saison gown, or between season, with street wear being of serges and cheviots; for indoors, clothes had trimmings of heavy open-work black lace and deep pleated ruffles of taffeta, silk, or bolero of lace over pleated black taffeta. There were high collars, unlined, of lace or velvet, narrow pointed black velvet belts with rhinestone buckles, tight fitting waists, fancy buttons of jet or cut crystal, or crochet, and buttons were laced with black ribbon cord. The new waists or jackets were double-breasted and buttoned at one side, never in front. Hats were toques, off the face, or poke bonnets.<sup>10</sup> One gown worn in Austin was described as of "light biscuit satin, covered with silver spangles."<sup>11</sup> Another was described as spreading on one side in spirals that were tarantula-like. Walking boots had soft kid tops and vamp of enamel, and not patent. Gloves were left unbuttoned, hanging on hands.

### HISTORIC HOMES

One of the first of the famous homes in Travis County and Austin was the French Embassy home of the French Minister de Saligny. Built high on Robertson hill, it was a show place, on about 20 acres of land. Anson Jones, who had bought the land for \$500, sold it to de Saligny for \$1,000, in 1840, and he built the house with lumber freighted from Bastrop. It had double doors, large hinges, locks, one-foot large brass knobs, and the long keys which fitted into those large locks were ruler length, and were curios to the kids who grew up in that neighborhood for generations. The huge hall had two rooms on each side, with fireplaces, handsome hearths and mantels. The gal-

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lery on the south side had double square column posts, with latticed trellis. A small stairway led to the attic which was the servants' quarters. Outside, over the porch, was a small sign, "Legation of France." The guest book had in it many names, such as Sam Houston, Albert Sidney Johnston, Robert E. Lee.

Before the French minister left his home in a huff, the citizens knew happy hours there, to which the hand organ and wine cellar contributed. De Saligny sold the place to Bishop Odin, who in 1847, sold it to Moseley Baker, and in 1848 it became the property of Dr. Joseph W. Robertson, for whom the hill became known, for \$2,000. It remained in the Robertson family for about a century, and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and Mrs. Walter P. Webb and others, converted it into a relic of the Republic of Texas.

Another house dating back to the 1840's is at 403 West 14th Street, built by parents of Mrs. Augusta Hertel on their original grant, according to her grandson, Michael Ziller. It stands as it was constructed originally, except for the second story added later.

At another house, the date 1850 is still seen, at Sunnyside, at 34th and Red River Streets, home of the Dieterichs and later the Hancocks, with cedar log cabins still standing.

Another home, long since destroyed, was Belle Monte, the home of Judge Webb, where Lamar often visited. Later, the location belonged to A. J. Hamilton, whose home still stands.

Not too many of the cabins built in Travis County during the days of the Republic are still standing. Some have been enclosed in houses built around them, as the home of Mrs. James Gault, Sr., near Summit. She is a descendant of James Rogers (who with his brother Joseph, was a pioneer near Webberville). The cabin dates back to Rogers' later life on his grant of land north of Austin. On the place is also a Confederate rose plant that also dates back decades. There are log cabins still standing at Moore's Crossing, near the City Park, but the one built in Govalle by Capt. J. J. Grumbles, ferryman, and later moved to 1401 San Jacinto Street, in the Palm yard, is gone.

In the 1840's and 1850's, some settlers ventured out beyond the town limits and built cabins, as did Jacob Leser in 1859, and one of the Hancocks, whose original log cabin is incorporated in an old stone house on Alice Avenue, and Edward Seiders built a



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log cabin at Seiders Spring.

One of the tragedies of our times is the tearing down of historic buildings. One of these was at 1008 Lavaca Street, and built by Joseph Harrell, a first settler, who reputedly rode to Austin by horseback from North Carolina. In about 1856, he and his bride from Tennessee, lived in a stone cottage there, built about 1840, with quarters at the back for their three slaves, Belle, Eliza, and William. By 1873, they built the house in front of the old stone one. This couple helped to start the First Baptist Church nearby, and started the tradition of having Sunday afternoon services there for the Negroes. The old stone coottage had thick walls, small porthole windows, with a cistern in one of the four rooms (to be used in case of an Indian raid). Two rooms back of this housed the slaves, and all were there when Harrell settled on the land in about 1840. And Professor W. S. Gideon, in his study of old homes in the area, believed the houses were there before Austin was; credence was contributed to this by the crudeness of the buildings. The story about the hat box Harrell's bride brought from Tennessee still circulates in Austin. Did it have a secret compartment up in the lid, and what did she keep in there?

Another emblem of the era was the old stone house of H. B. Kinney, and owned by his descendants for decades, until it became the home of the E. J. Lunds, at 802 Barton Boulevard.

Also in South Austin, the Ernest Hardins have rebuilt the old water mill and house with the stones that had fallen away from the century old structure, even to the thick walls which were typical of over a century ago. The house has been built on several levels, in a setting of the old mill stream, still flowing, and his collection of furnishings from other historic places enhances the home he has named Millbrook.

During the span of statehood to the Civil War, from about 1846 to 1860, many historic homes were built. Abner H. Cook contributed much to the architecture of Austin during the 1850's. One of the homes he built, the Neill-Cochran house, dates to 1855, and belonged to Washington Hill, on his 40 acres of land. By 1856, the Blind School was there temporarily, and in 1857 the Whitis family owned it. During the Civil War and post-era, it was a hospital (and the back yard a cemetery) for the Union soldiers in Austin. In 1870, Governor Hamilton lived there while

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his home east of Austin was being built; then Colonel Andrew Neill owned it in the 1870's, and in 1892 the T. B. Cochran family had it. This home stands the same today as it was built, except for additions at the back and interior improvements. The Colonial Dames bought the house in 1958 and it can be seen at the western end of 23rd Street, two-story, of native limestone, with wide porches across the front upstairs and down, doric columns, and 18-inch thick walls.

At 109 West Ninth Street was built the Swante Palm home in the early 1850's, where he collected the books that went in 1899 to the University of Texas.

Another house, at 206 East 9th, was built about 1850 by a Frenchman named Ducharmes, in New Orleans style, with doors, windows and hardware from France, where Albert Sidney Johnston lived from about 1852-1855. Also gone in the past two decades is the J. M. Thibault home at 208 East 11th Street, built about 1840, where Tom Walling later lived a lifetime.

The log hut of Big Foot Wallace was in the neighborhood of the Nalle and Hatzfeld homes around West 10th and 11th Streets in the Rio Grande Street area; which must have been a scenic sight then, because Little Shoal Creek flowed below the site then along the path of San Antonio Creek. The big trees that were his smokehouse still stand.

Mention is made of many of these houses that have been torn down because they, too, were part of the past, and pictures preserve their place in history. Another was the Nat Raymond house, built in the 1850's, east of Speedway on East 24th Street, of sun-dried bricks, and the old plantation house became the property of the University in 1929, and for a time it was a boarding place for boys. Stories of the buried treasure around this place date back to the post Civil War era, when the state treasury was looted and the raiders, after being routed, reportedly buried the loot at a likely location on their way north of Austin.

The mid-fifties were the period of polish in Austin. The cedar cabins were replaced by handsome homes, with carpets, chandeliers, china, silver. They built well, those pioneers of over a century ago, and their buildings reflect that era of life in Austin. The capitol and the governor's mansion were built, and Abner H. Cook's home at 1104 Colorado Street.

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1853 was the year of many changes. The site of the mansion of the Republic of Texas was bought by Governor Bell. The mansion had burned in 1847, and remaining was the one-story frame house at the northwest corner, for the servants. F. T. Duffau bought the property in 1857, and lived there until 1872, and his widow sold it to St. Mary's Academy for their school.

It was in 1853 that James Shaw, who had served as comptroller in 1839, had the Southern colonial style house built by Abner H. Cook, in a setting of about 200 acres, that is known today as Woodlawn, present home of the Allan Shivers. Shaw, who had come from Ireland, did not have the Irish luck; his bride-to-be, for whom he built the house, did not marry him; he soon married another. Later, their two-year-old child and was buried inside the front gate; then his wife died, and he left the place in 1857. Governor Pease bought the home in 1859, and moved there after his term as governor ended and he left the governor's mansion.

Governor and Mrs. E. M. Pease were the first occupants of the mansion, built by A. H. Cook also. The site of the mansion, originally designated as the west part of block 170, was changed by them to the present location. Its Greek Ionic columns have an interesting balcony rail, and the large rooms are a collector's dream with the historic furniture and decorations.

About 1856, Alexander Eanes built his home on Sabine Street between 17th and 18th Streets, and the material he used was from the old treasury building on lot 4, block 55. In 1858, Charles Johnson built his home at Deep Eddy, where the American Legion home is a century later. Johnson had a floating grist mill at the foot of Shoal Creek on the Colorado River when he came to Austin in 1854. When this washed away in 1857, he sought a higher site and bought 40 acres east of Deep Eddy. There, near the William McGill ford on the river, he built a log cabin for his family, and in 1858 he built the two-story stone house, with the customary carriage shed, cistern attached, smokehouse, and butter tank for cooling the butter. The cedar posts that still support the ceiling a century later were hand hewed and squared. Johnson had his own lime kiln and rock quarry, which furnished material for his house and for the later cornerstone of the Driskill Hotel. They were near the Brackenidge tract, now the property of the University, and Johnson later



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helped to build the home of Colonel E. M. House, who often brought his wife out to Johnson's place near Deep Eddy and rented a boat for a ride up the river. Johnson's children, after the Civil War, knew the old bull pen of reconstruction days, and the Federal troops encamped east of their place, and watched the flag lowering at sundown about where the Butler property is, south of the underpass.

Also, in 1854 was built the two-story stone Sneed home, where Mrs. Virgia Lo Cage lives today on the Bluff Springs, or Lockhart road, in an aura of antiquity generated by canopied beds, Civil War mementos, and a washing machine manufactured in Austin generations ago.

In April, 1859, Montopolis looked good again, when T. R. Spence came from Tennessee. His family arrived in town and stayed at first in a hotel, then in a rent house, the only one available, because Sam Houston was being inaugurated and the legislature was here. After their slaves and furnishings arrived in a caravan of carriages and four-horse wagons, they moved out to Montopolis, where Spence had bought land in the woods, nearly three miles from Austin. The slaves chopped trees for the logs to build the houses. The first was to be for the slaves, but the Civil War came, stopping construction, so the family lived in this first house, and had to buy planks and put up a quick house for the slaves, until after the war. When the river rose, and "broke its back," it was just under the floor of this old log house, to which later rooms were added, according to deed records of the Eugene Howard family, who own the site.

Coming with T. R. Spence to Austin, was Joseph Spence, who later became commissioner of the land office. Joseph Spence was 16 when he came in 1859, and he left Austin another house that is a heritage in history. Joseph Spence married a girl who lived across the road from them when he was first at Montopolis, and the house that he and his family lived in later was east of the 2200 block of South First Street, until the 1850's, when it was torn down. This was sometimes called the Fernandez house; who he was, or where he went, no one seems to know; at one time, in the last few years, it was in the process of being acquired under the statute of limitation. Many may know the house as the Shands house or the Wilson place, or Spence house. Miss Allie May Cooper, who grew up there, says it was

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bought from Shands by her great grandfather, William McFarland Wilson and his wife, Mary Elizabeth Gooch Shands; their daughter, Virginia Wilson and her husband, Joseph Spence, lived there later with their family, four generations of that family.

Many today remember the old house,—built in the days of the Indians, it had a lookout atop the house, a secret cellar to hide in, in event of a raid, an underground greenhouse, a storm cellar. The house faced west, and was a rambling, two-story frame, built on a knoll in the center of ten acres, with a porch across the front, with six columns, and had a white rail fence around it, long ago. The lawn in front of it on that west side went down to the creek; in fact, Bouldin Creek ran through the front yard, and the circular drive up to the house was fringed with rose bushes, along a lane of elders, and maidenhair fern and violets grew along the creek bank, and honeysuckle draped from the trees. The creek had a limestone bottom, and a dam there made a swimming pool for them. A gallery ran across the front of the house, with double-door entrances on the north, south, and west, there was a wide hall, with sitting room on the left, and parlor on the right, or southwest side. This entrance hall crossed one running north and south, from which an L was built that housed the dining room, with passageway to the kitchen.

The place was called Live Oak Grove, and was off East Live Oak at Wilson, and south one block, and had it not been torn down, would have been an example of its era, with its narrow stairway leading from the second floor to the attic and the trap door concealed in the ceiling where the owner could scan the horizon for Indians. There was an underground passage, reached from a secret stairway in a closet leading to a cellar under the smokehouse. Children playing there in this generation discovered the cellar and the bones they found there made it a "ghost house."

In 1859, another house, also demolished later, was being built by Judge Amos Merrill, who came to Austin in 1851, which was to be a historic place later as the home of Governor E. J. Davis. Many living in Travis County today remember seeing the iron barred windows of the jail in the cellar of the house, at 600 Davis Street, at the foot of Red River Street near the river. There was a path from the street to the house, and a round flow-

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er bed centered with a fountain. The old-time circular carriage drive entered from the right, to the front steps, and led out to the left, from the two-story frame and stone house.

Of the distinctive dwellings that still stand, one of the most interesting is that owned by Dr. Hugh Emerson, at 502 West 13th Street, and called the Smith home, originally built by Abner Cook for his home. There is still to be seen the latticed back porch with a cistern inside, (a trend of the times so that water would be available in event of an Indian attack). The old carriage house is there at the alley. John Palm later lived there and when he contracted to tear down the old Capitol, after the fire of 1881, he brought window sills and stones to this house from the Capitol. In the back room of the old stone house, on the right of the hall, the second window sill has the name of Athol Estes carved there, for all to see, by O. Henry while he was waiting for her during her visit with the Smith family living there.

It was during the late fifties, that Edgemont was built out near Mount Bonnell, to stand for nearly a century, and comprised of land that is steeped in scenery and heaped with history, from Mount Bonnell to the dam.

Many countries and creeds have had a hand in the development of this lake area. Ownership in it has gone from Spain to Scotland, and projects on it have included the establishment of the old Southern plantation that was Edgemont, with slave labor, a Mormon mill, an East Lake View Park, a brick and lime factory, and a cement factory.

Early settlers like Stephen F. Austin and Thomas J. Chambers surveyed this site in the early thirties, and the Republic of Texas' patent, signed by Anson Jones, President, in 1846, covered the conveying of this tract later, with a dramatic description,—“In Travis County, on the east side of the Colorado River at the foot of the mountain about forty miles above Bastrop, done at the city of Austin on 5 February, 1846, the year of the Independence of the Republic the tenth,” describing as stakes of the survey, Arroyo Cascadero (Cascade Creek), round holes in mountain cliffs, post oaks, hackberries, live oaks, mesquites, blackjacks, pecans, elms, and a cypress tree 80 inches in diameter standing in the center of a large spring.”

This land, selling steeply by the front foot in 1960, was sold



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by leagues and labors (about 177.2 acres to a labor), and averaged about \$1.35 an acre.

Over a hundred years ago, in 1850, a big tract just above the dam sold for \$80, and this did not include the four acres of the old mill site, of the Mormons, above the dam.

There was a little feuding over the ownership of the spring with the large cypress tree in it, located between the Taylor and Walsh tracts. The claim to it was challenged several times; on August 2, 1856, Joseph Warren, being ousted, said he was on Mormon Spring and that Cypress Spring was down river a mile and a half, and on May 6, 1858, he was again challenged on his claim to Cypress Spring.

On August 11, 1860, \$2,817.50 was paid for nearly 560 acres, and the Mormon Mill tract of about four acres, with the owners being from Brazoria County, Louisiana and Mississippi, and the owner, Robt. J. Townes, from the latter place brought his slaves to this section and built Edgemont Place, an old Southern plantation. Envision it as it was then, high on its hill near Mount Bonnell, with cotton planted on both sides of the river (no lake then) in the low land, with Tarrytown for the yard, and with brick and lime and cement plants working, with sugar cane planted too, and his slave cabins of the field hands which still have remnants standing in the Camp Mabry grounds. Close to the house were the slave cabins of the house servants. The house was the usual two-story, built of stone, with long porches across the front, upstairs and down, big halls and stairway, dining room built in the L back to the kitchen; with a potato cellar and wine cellar beneath.

Old Judge Townes died in 1865, and the place was sold, including the 1,100 acres owned on both sides of the river. Land was selling then for about \$4-5 an acre, and much timber was being cut, rock being quarried and brick and lime being manufactured. Then all this sold to the Scottish American Mortgage Company, and familiar names came into ownership. There were smaller tracts known as Mount Barker tract, Mabry Place. If you wonder where Taylor's Slough got its name, which is about the 2600 block of Scenic Drive, and where fishermen used to launch their boats into Lake Austin, P. C. Taylor owned this tract and established there the East Lake View Park, later. The Walsh tract was near the dam, and there was a cement works,

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with a schoolhouse tract east of the cement factory. When the kids go today to swim at Reed Park, they see one of the old landmarks of this era.

During the spring of 1893, the City of Austin was dealing with the then owners over damage sustained by submersion of land in this area by the dam being built across the river, below them. On February 20, 1893, Mayor John McDonald named Frank Maddox as the citys' arbiter "to act as umpire" and the owners were paid \$50 an acre for arable land, and about \$75 an acre for pasture and agricultural land. For other acreage, says the city, "we allow nothing"—paying over \$6,000 in all when the dam sixty feet in height just below the mouth of Bee Creek was built, creating a lake that overflowed about 78 acres on the east side and 72 acres on the west side.

It was in this setting that Edgemont came to be a historic house in its day, and the Judge H. J. Huck family, who moved there in 1886, remembered particularly the parties and dances in the court at Edgemont, which was at the back of the house, at the side of the L, and had a cedar shingle roof over it. A fire in 1956 destroyed all of this.

In the 1860's, the Rabb house was built near Barton's, on land bought by John Rabb in 1860. He died in 1861, and his widow built the house with two rooms upstairs and two downstairs with two frame rooms at the back; all later burned. Their son, Gail, often watched the soldiers passing the place, on the Robert E. Lee Road, which the military followed. In about 1870, Gail had a flour mill at the springs, and an ice factory later. In the early 1900's, the property sold to A. J. Zilker, and later became city property, Barton Springs and Zilker Park.

Another landmark, the Bremond block, came into being in 1866. This is the square of land bounded by Guadalupe, San Antonio, and West Seventh and Eighth Streets. The first house was at 709 San Antonio Street, a one-story place built by a Mr. Bissell, and enlarged to three stories when it became the home of Eugene Bremond, and later the home of Walter Bremond and his wife.

This house was part of a block that became a family group. Three Bremonds married three Robinsons, so all seven houses in the square block were built by or for these families. In the center of the square, behind the house, was a patio, or play-

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ground for the children. The families of Al Robinson, John H. Robinson, Eugene, Pierre and Walter Bremond lived here.

At 709 San Antonio the Bremond house built in 1866 has a mansard roof, with walls so thick they are practically sound-proof. It is built right on the sidewalk, and is L-shaped. The cistern, customary then, is in the corner of the L, and the old Victorian banisters have been replaced with New Orleans grill. Galleries run along the L in the back; most of the rooms have fireplaces, and its windows and doors are special; there is a sun room, parlors, library, dining room, stairs leading to the kitchen, and those stairways up to the second and third floors are walnut, and curving and circular.

Those homes on that sloping hill must have had fascinating views of the western hills, and as one of the families has commented, there was resentment for those who built the house that is now the Austin Woman's Club, for two reasons; and the lesser reason was for cutting off their view to the west.

It was about this time, too, that a building began in Austin, around which stories have centered for nearly a century. It is difficult to ferret out what is fact and what is fiction. But the Republicans of that day are credited with connections with it. At any rate, citizens in Austin at the close of the Civil War, certainly were suspicious when William Alexander, called a carpet-bagger, arrived about 1866, and built that Shot Tower at 115 West Hickory Street.

Was there, as old timers have insisted, once a cistern east of it, under that big bay window on the east side, and did they really drop hot lead down there into the water, to form shot, as the stories suggest?

Once this plat of land was owned by the sister of Frank Brown, Travis County historian, then Robert A. Alexander owned it, as Lot 7, in Block 83 (see map of original Austin). After the war, William Alexander built the odd building there, that was called the Shot Tower. Was there a tunnel, too, which led under the Avenue and came out close to the post office, then back of the Avenue Hotel?

William Alexander was attorney general under Governor E. J. Davis, later. Not much is known of his past, but the stories are myriad. He came to Austin by devious routes, leaving his past back of him; in his case, old timers say he was a lawyer



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once in Kentucky, but why did he come to Texas via Cuba?

Tales are told of the meetings there during reconstruction days, with more Negroes than whites participating, and of Alexander calling together the bolting Republicans or null and void faction, and meeting behind bolted doors, with sentries posted.

The shot tower was about twenty by twenty feet, three stories high, one underground and two above. Looking like a lighthouse, it had no front entrance, only back of the third story. Tales told of there being no entrance to the building and all stairs led to the basement and tunnel. At the time the Austin post office was about a block east of the Shot Tower, and stories told of Alexander's going into the alley south of his office and emerging from the mouth of the alley back of the post office. Any writer living in Austin in the reconstruction era must have had a heyday ferreting out the facts,—and could have flooded the fiction field, too. Many interesting people lived in the castle later; artist Edna Collins and the Dewey Bradfords, at its site on the south side of West Eighth Street, between Congress Avenue and Colorado Street.

In 1870, DeWitt Clinton Baker built the house called Honey-suckle Glen at 2620 Rio Grande Street, which was later the home of W. G. Franklin. The address was 2620 San Bernard Street then. Jeremiah Sheehan was the stone mason and the house still has its interesting roof and verandah.

The Millett mansion was started in 1873, and still stands on the north side of East Ninth Street, near Brazos Street.

There was being built in Austin in 1874 a house that is still a showplace. Mrs. Catherine North built the house that became the Austin Woman's Club, at Eighth and San Antonio Streets. Samuel Haynie owned the property about 1853, then it belonged to Captain William F. North, and the chateau-like place was started and called Bellevue. There are two cisterns of solid rock, and back of the building ran Little Shoal Creek. In 1892, Mayor Ira H. Evans bought Bellevue after Colonel William Gaines had it in 1884, and it was the Evans family who completed the place as it is today, with its twenty rooms, and terraced grounds.

The charming cottage at 305 West Ninth Street was built in 1875 by Henry Hirshfeld, and his family lived there until the large house next door, at the southwest corner of Ninth and Lavaca Streets, could be built. This later house, at 303 West

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Ninth Street, is two-story, of stone, with galleries on three sides that are serenely chronicling yesterdays, todays, and tomorrows in Austin. This house, finished in 1885, has 12 rooms, floor-to-ceiling windows throughout the house, fireplaces with the traditional parlor, sitting room and library, with a long hall running through the downstairs. The grillwork around the porch and the iron fence are distinctive features, as the carriage house, which early in this century housed one of the first Buicks in Austin. Mrs. Max Bernheim and Miss Laura Hirshfeld live in this Hirshfeld family home now.

A later occupant of the Hirshfeld cottage, in the early 1890's was Dr. E. P. Wilmot, with his family, from Franklin, Pennsylvania, who stayed first at the Avenue Hotel. Mrs. S. B. Roberdeau, daughter of the Wilmots', remembers school days at Pease School, not far from the Wilmots' first home, built at 608 Rio Grande Street, the southwest corner of the block that was surrounded by doctors, Swearingen, Steiner, Brenizer, Hudson. This house had large rooms and the customary porch, but, while planned by the Wilmots, was built when Mrs. Wilmot was ill at her mother's home in Pennsylvania and Dr. Wilmot had typhoid fever at the Avenue Hotel in Austin. They found later that in order to save a large tree on the south side of the house, ten feet had been cut from the rooms on the north side of the house, and the results were some too-small rooms. Their later home was the attractive red brick house at 804 Lavaca Street, with its 21 rooms, nine porches (three on each floor), six baths, a full basement, and fireplace in every room. In this century, the family's later home, at 904 San Antonio, is occupied by the family of their granddaughter, Mrs. John C. Horton.

By 1888, the house of the John H. Robinsons at the northeast corner of Guadalupe and West 8th Streets was being built, but it, too, has been torn down. This family was a part of the Robinson-Bremonds, since Mrs. Robinson was a daughter of the first John Bremond. The house of brick had many splendid features, marble fireplaces and mantels, wrought iron grillwork that is on many of the houses in that neighborhood of that era.

Up to that year of 1888, John T. Allan, before his death in January, lived in his home at 1104 San Antonio Street.

The home of John M. Swisher, long a landmark, on San Antonio Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets, was incorpor-

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ated almost as a replica, into the home of Dr. and Mrs. Z. T. Scott, after Swisher's death. The material was moved to the site of the Scott home and the Swisher dwelling duplicated, even to the Ionic columns, and set in the scenery of the lake locale.

The O. Henry Museum, a characteristic cottage of its era, was once the home of O. Henry, eminent Austin writer. Located in his time at 308 East Fourth Street, it is today a museum at 409 East Fifth Street.

It was in 1892, that a small item in the *Austin Statesman* on July 4, noted, "Mr. Ed has moved into his new home last week, and he may justly feel proud of it." Mr. Ed was Colonel E. M. House, who achieved fame for himself and that home, because plans for presidents and state and national notables evolved from meetings there. A native of Houston, House had cotton farms north of Austin, named for two daughters, Monadale and Janetfarm. Monadale grew into a community of cotton farms, and the schoolhouse there was pointed out by Mrs. Winnie Bucy Morrow. House's cotton farms provided him with a living and he became an adviser to President Wilson later. His home at 1704 West Avenue was built on one of Austin's high hills, constructed so that the rooms opened on a porch with a scenic view of the city. Its parquet floors came from Italy, the chandeliers from France, and it was shaped like a ship with many porthole windows.

In 1893, the George W. Littlefield home was built at Whitis and West 24th Street, north of the University of Texas. This turreted red brick house reflected the elegance of the nineties, with its six marble fireplaces and seventeen rooms. The usual high ceilings are a cover for the carving that is everywhere, doors, stairs, and walls. After Littlefield's family was gone, it served as a sorority house, music building, business office, and Naval ROTC center.

Nearby once was the Driskill home at 2610 Whitis Avenue, built by J. L. Driskill, also of brick, and containing eleven marble fireplaces and the same beautiful carving in its interior. It, too, has served many purposes before being razed, as a Scottish Rite dormitory, Faculty Women's Club, music rooms, and Longhorn Band headquarters.

The Days also had a home nearby on Whitis Avenue; this



Doc Day house later belonged to Bishop Kinsolving.

Also in Austin were two German colonies of historic homes. One was on East Tenth Street, just west of Red River Street; there they had a cluster of cottages, a school, and they put out a paper for their people. The other was on the alley between Fourteenth and Fifteenth Streets, between Colorado and Guadalupe Streets, of which the A. W. Wahrmann place, built about the time Texas became a state, had a courtyard on its south side.

At 1412 Congress, the Governor F. R. Lubbock home stood for decades, two stories tall, with long shuttered windows opening on balconies or porches; it, too, was typical of its times.

Another house noted by architects of Austin was the Thad Thompson home at the southwest corner of 19th and West Avenue, and the *Austin Tribune* of August 12, 1899, spoke of a house that still stands, built as the home of Dr. Goodall Wooten, at the corner of Nineteenth and Rio Grande Streets, at a cost of \$9,000. It, too, is a treat for visitors, as are its grounds, for gardeners.

Many stories have been written about the "Heritage House" built by Judge and Mrs. R. L. Penn at 3112 West Avenue, which is headquarters for the Austin Heritage Society, who are restoring it.

## THE ARTS

The center of culture in many cities is often the university, college, or school. In Travis County, in this century the University of Texas has contributed to this phase of life in the capital city. Before the establishment of the University in 1883, the Austin Lyceum was incorporated on February 4, 1841; there were singing societies, as that of Saengerrunde, orchestras and bands, and in this generation the band concerts at the parks in the old bandstand were a tradition. Many noted painters, sculptors, artists, writers came to Austin, and the architects of the area left us historic homes. There were literary clubs from Austin's first founding, and James Burke's library at Seventh and Congress, opened in Austin's first year. And the opera houses, Smith's, Millett's, and Hancock's, featured the amateurs and the greats, with operas, minstrels, vaudeville.

As early as 1841, Mirabeau B. Lamar was writing a history of Texas after his term as president of the Texas Republic ended. Actually, activity in 1839 in Austin was limited to reading books,

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not writing them. James Burke opened his reading room the day Congress convened in Austin, but a fire on November 20 ended this enterprise.

Bride Neil Taylor was in Austin in 1871, she wrote for the *Statesman* later, studied at the University in 1883 when it opened, and later wrote of Austin and Elisabet Ney.

By 1873, the Library Association of Austin was presenting readings and speeches on Wednesday evenings,<sup>13</sup> and J. S. Penn was supplying books at his bookstore. By October, 1876, Penn had his library at the City Clock building, and a booklet of his firm said, "for only \$7 you can read a whole year."<sup>14</sup> He had about 2,000 books at his library.

One of Austin's earliest authors was D. W. C. Baker, who in 1874 was advertising his new book, *Texas Scrapbook*, being published by A. S. Barnes and Company, of New York. His book was scheduled for the spring of 1875, to sell at \$5 per copy.<sup>15</sup> He was showing samples of engraving for the 800-page book. In 1875, he was treasurer of the Austin Library Club, and is credited with organizing Austin's first public library.

In 1877, Bella French moved to Austin with her monthly magazine, *American Sketch Book*, issued since 1874. In October, 1878, she married John M. Swisher. Many of the articles in the magazine were of Texas history. Swisher died in 1891, and she died in California in 1893. A complete collection of her sketchbook is in the Texas History Center at the University of Texas.

O. N. Hollingsworth was editor of the *Texas Journal of Education* in Austin in 1880, and by 1883 it became the *Texas School Journal*. Other magazines included the *Texas Law Review*, published in Austin in 1883. Then it was moved to Galveston, and by 1885 was back in Austin until 1886, when it ceased. It was about 1912 before Texas had another such magazine.

In 1884, William Sidney Porter, later known as O. Henry, came to Austin, from Greensboro, North Carolina, where he spent the first two decades of his life. In Austin, he lived with Joseph Harrell, also from his Carolina home town, and worked at a drug store and the land office. These were the days of his cartoons and caricatures of everything and everybody. But he also made Austin conscious of the beauty of the land office

building, built in 1856, and now a museum in the southeast corner of the Capitol grounds. This building, designed by Conrad C. Stremme, who copied a castle from his homeland on the Rhine, was often the setting for O. Henry's later stories, with its thick walls, concrete checkered floors. He worked there from 1887 to 1891, and in his paper, "The Rolling Stone," published in Austin, he wrote of this land office building on May 5, 1894:

"As you pass up the avenue, on a steep hill before you, you see a medieval castle. You think of the Rhine, the castled crag of Drachenfels; the Loreli, and the vine clad slopes of Germany. And German it is in every line of its architecture and design. The plan was drawn by an old draftsman from the 'Vaterland' whose heart still loved the scenes of his native land, and it is said that he reproduced the design of a certain castle near his birthplace."

On July 5, 1887, he married Athol Estes and they lived for a time at the house that is now the O. Henry Museum. He left the land office and worked for about three years for the First National Bank. From April 28, 1894, to April 27, 1895, he published his paper, *The Rolling Stone*, in which his cartoons and short stories went to about 1,500 subscribers. Financially, it was unsuccessful. After working for a time in Houston and in Honduras, he returned to Austin because of his wife's illness, and she died July 25, 1897. It was then that O. Henry left Texas to go to Ohio. There he served a prison sentence of three years, shortened from five, for a shortage which occurred in the Austin bank while he worked there. About the shortage, much has been written, some defending him, some denouncing him, but the real story has not been written. O. Henry's silence protected Austin people in his lifetime, and it should not be disturbed after his death. His short stories found fame for him.

In 1888, Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker was known for her *History of Texas*, and she became an Austin resident about 1900.

Another magazine, the *Texas Medical Journal*, was published in Austin in 1893 by Drs. F. E. Daniel and S. E. Hudson.<sup>16</sup>

Mention must be made of the preservation of the culture and arts of Austin's past, available today in many places, particularly the museums and three libraries located in Austin,—the State Library, under Dr. Dorman Winfrey, state librarian, and James M. Day, archivist; the Texas Library at the University of Texas, Dr. Llerena Friend, librarian; and the Austin Public Li-



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brary, Miss Mary Rice, librarian, and one particular phase of the latter, the Austin-Travis County Collection, which has known the dedicated devotion of the original organizer, Mrs. Helen Swanson, and the present director, Mrs. Katherine Hart, and Mrs. Jane Rowley.

The 90's were when Austin attracted many notables, and among them was Elisabet Ney, sculptor, born in Westphalia. Most are familiar with the story of her life, and have seen her statues or plastic casts of them in her old home (now a museum of the Texas Fine Arts Association out in Hyde Park),—statues of persons who are now names in European history,—King Ludwig II, Bismarck, Schopenhauer, whom she knew,—and of Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin, Albert Sidney Johnston, O. M. Roberts, and William Jennings Bryan.

While she was living at Liendo near Hempstead, the plantation home of her family, including Dr. Edmund Montgomery (whom she married but retained her own name), and with her children, Arthur and Lorne, she met O. M. Roberts, a neighbor, who interested her in coming to Austin to do statues of men like Stephen F. Austin and Sam Houston, to adorn the top of the new capitol being planned, of white limestone, in Austin. When the capitol was later built of Texas granite these plans were changed. The studio and home that Miss Ney built in Austin was called Formosa; it resembled a Greek temple on the left and an English castle on the right.

Many Austinites knew the drama she created as she rode around town, in flowing Grecian gowns, in the gig behind Pasha, a tremendous horse. She often wore a veil over her short hair, and she made death masks of the dead on occasions when requested to. One of her finest works was the reclining figure of General Albert Sidney Johnston over his grave in Austin's State Cemetery. Formosa, her home in Hyde Park, and a museum now, is a memorial to this sculptor.

George Finlay Simmons, instructor of zoology at the University, moved to Austin in the fall of 1899, and stayed for ten years, exploring the Austin area for material for his book, *Birds of the Austin Region*, which was published by the University of Texas Press in 1925. He covered the area "within a half day's walk from Austin."<sup>17</sup> He wrote of the ducks as they arrived, the blue winged teal in late August, the mallards by Labor Day;

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the pintails a little later; the shoveller still later; although all are usually in Austin by mid-autumn.

Simmons studied and wrote of animals around Austin too, beside the birds; he knew the haunts of the blue jays, bobolinks, blackbirds, bob whites, the buffalo and the buzzard. He located the cardinals, and the chimney swifts in downtown Austin, swooping down at dusk over housetops, and departing about dawn. He tracked the coyotes, deer, and hunted doves and ducks and eagles alike. The fish were also part of his study: white perch, white bass, black bass, sun perch, goggle eye perch, and he knew geese of all sorts, and grackles and gulls of all varieties. He knew the haunts of the hawks, as well as of the herons who used to stop at night at Fiset's mill pond along Shoal Creek; humming birds who liked the trees around the Kavanaugh tract, now Intramural Field near the University, and also Hamilton Pool.

Probably no man of his day knew more about the Austin area than did Simmons, who must have walked over most of it, looking for javelinas, and the king birds he often saw out at Samuel Huston College, and orioles, and he must have been fascinated with the American barn owls he found around Austin, particularly at the "Methodist and Catholic church towers,"<sup>18</sup> and these owls were known as the church owls or steeple owls.

The martins were not hard to find in the awnings on the streets downtown, or the meadowlarks or mockingbirds. Native to Austin as he knew it, were the phoebe or peewee, pigeons, quail, roadrunners, robins, snowbirds, sparrows, swallows. Do the thrush still sing in East Woods as they did for him around 1899, and do the warblers still get killed by being dashed against the towers during storms? Simmons found the whip-poor-will or chuck-will's widow at Taylor's Slough, around that old lime kiln built around 1860 by Judge Townes, and this old lime kiln can still be seen there at Reed Pool today. Another man who interested himself in this study was Professor Bickler who often took his school boys for walks on Saturdays to hunt these birds and observe them.

Another man who was an artist in his profession before the century ended was S. B. Hill, a photographer at 915 Congress, and some of his pictures of Austin's yesterdays are used today.

In May, 1888, there was started the Texas Capitol's gallery

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of governors with an appropriation by the legislature for pictures and statues of those prominent in the state's story. Most of the paintings of Texas' presidents and governors up to 1888 were the work of William Henry Huddle, until his death in 1892.

Music, too, was part of the story of early Travis County. Austin had an amateur band with about forty members, mostly fiddlers, who entertained often. By the 1880's, music was the featured entertainment, and local men were often composers. In 1886, Millett's Opera House featured "The Greatest of All Irish Plays" by James C. Roach and J. Armoy Knox (of the newspaper, *Texas Siftings*); the play was entitled, "Shane-Na-Laun."<sup>19</sup> These men were friends of O. Henry and were writers and playwrights of Austin.

The scene of many Austin songfests was Scholz Garden, which opened on Sunday evening, April 11, 1886, with fireworks, and soon after that featured Wallner's Tyrolean Troops.<sup>20</sup>

Serenaders in Austin for years were members of the Austin Musical Union, organized in the basement of the Avenue Hotel on September 1, 1886, with about forty-five members.<sup>21</sup> By the late 1890's, this group had nearly one hundred members, and later leaders on into this century were Professor William Bes-serer, James P. Crane, and Edwin A. Peterson, who also taught music at the later Labor Temple at Tenth and Brazos Streets, and played with the municipal band at their concerts. Austin had a Negro band in 1886, which often serenaded at Sixth and Congress, and out on Robertson Hill in East Austin.

Professor Edmund Ludwig opened his Conservatory of Music on East Seventh Street, east of Congress Avenue, in 1893.<sup>22</sup> Musicians from all of Austin gathered for the Sand Hill Leap Year Party at the East Austin fire hall.<sup>23</sup>

### SOCIAL AND FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Shortly after President Lamar and his cabinet arrived in Austin, in the fall of 1839, clubs started organizing. St. John's Masonic Lodge No. 12, A.F.&A.M. organized on October 11.<sup>24</sup>

In January, 1840, George W. Bonnell was secretary of the Texas Patriotic and Philosophic Society. The mountain north-west of Austin reputedly was named for him at the suggestion of a Mrs. Barker, whose name replaced the name of Teulon for Mount Barker.<sup>25</sup>

The Travis Guards met in March, 1840, and were incorpor-



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ated on January 23, 1841, by act of Congress.<sup>26</sup>

The Lone Star Chapter No. 3 of Royal Arch Masons were meeting with George K. Teulon in May, 1841, and the *Austin City Gazette* of July 21, 1841, noted that a new Temperance Society had been organized, and was meeting by candlelight.

The same paper, on December 29, 1841, reported a Masonic dinner on the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, December 27, with Austin Lodge No. 12 and Lone Star Chapter No. 3. And the I.O.O.F. Lodge meeting was by candlelight, according to the *Gazette* of December 9, 1841.

By 1851, the Lyceum was reorganized and in 1852, the Odd Fellows organized on January 6, and Milam Lodge No. 23 the same month. By 1848, saloons were suspicious of the efforts of the Sons of Temperance Club. Parsons Lodge No. 222 at Manor started on February 14, 1857. Onion Creek Lodge No. 220, A.F.&A.M. was chartered June 16, 1858, and met in its own two-story stone building by 1861. This historic building still stands south of Austin and has served for a century for Masonic meetings, a school and church.

It was after the Civil War before activity started again. Groups that had served in the war reorganized, as the Travis Rifles and Hood's Brigade,—Austin Grays, May 12, 1876; Travis Rifles, May 20, 1876; Austin City Rifles (colored), June, 1874.

The Germania Verein was started by George Herzog in 1878, and the later song fests were known in Austin. The Austin Musical Union and Saengerrunde followed the next year. The Austin Athletic Association was chartered August 18, 1883, and was reorganized in 1897 and had their baseball park near the Austin dam. The Austin Club was chartered on December 28, 1889, with club rooms on the second floor of the Board of Trade building.

The DAR groups and the four chapters of the DRT organization (William B. Travis, Reuben Hornsby, Stephen F. Austin, and Texian), have had most of their activity in the current century and commemorate heroes and historic dates of the past.

Another Masonic group, Hill City Lodge No. 456, dates back to June 19, 1876, and their meetings were held at Lodge No. 12 hall at 700 Congress; two years later, part of the Tips building at 710-712 Congress was their meeting place until June 25, 1883, when the Masonic Temple was dedicated.

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On July 14, 1885, when the Austin Greys disbanded, the Texas Rifles assumed their assets. The Governor's Guard, a group composed of boys sixteen to nineteen years, organized in the spring of 1886, and by summer were drilling on College Avenue.

Austin's first Rod and Gun Club was organized at Phillips' place near the present City Park, a cottage was built, and fifty-two members had a week allotted to each of them to use the cottage for hunting and fishing. July 4 was always the occasion of a barbecue and square dance. In 1894, this club stocked its pond with 100 catfish and 100 black bass.

The YMCA was organized, with \$200,000 capital stock in 1894. The YMBL was begun at the Board of Trade hall, with about fifty members, and was chartered on June 9.

The 1890's were the club years, with a Ladies' Whist Club, Chess Club, and Pathfinders Literary Club.

### RECREATION AND SOCIAL LIFE

Recreation in Travis County, during the days of the Republic from 1839-1846, consisted mainly of family gatherings, camp meetings which were a form of social, too; all anniversaries were celebrated as March 2, April 21, July 4; dances and balls honored visitors; there were amateur theatricals, dramatics, minstrels,—and there was gambling and horse racing.

After President Lamar arrived in Austin in 1839 and was welcomed, a dinner was given to honor Sam Houston on Thursday, November 14, 1839, with about 200 present.<sup>27</sup> Dinners were given on many occasions, such as the one to honor the heroes who defeated the Comanches at Plum Creek on August 12, 1840; certainly, the Comanche Indians never knew how many dinners they prompted. On November 7, Colonel John H. Moore was the honoree at a barbecue by the citizens for his services against the Indians, when he and his men journeyed up the Colorado River, surprised the Indians in camp and killed about 128 of them.<sup>28</sup> On September 17, 1841, there was a party at the Capitol to honor Martin Francisco Peraza and Donaciano G. Rejon, of Yucatan.<sup>29</sup> In December, 1841, there were inauguration ceremonies and celebrations, and a dinner given Lamar, the outgoing president of the republic. For, while Sam Houston was the incoming president, it was Lamar who, on December 22,

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1841, inspired the fanciest fete given in Austin, of which the *Daily Bulletin* said, “. . . on a scale never equalled in Austin,” and a supper table that was “never equalled in TEXAS,” in a setting of red, white and blue decorations, lights, mirrors, with flowers and ferns, and muzzles and muskets around the platforms, and pictures of Lamar and Austin in the background.<sup>30</sup>

Holidays always called for celebrations, cannons were fired, there was a parade, dinner at Bullock's, with speeches, and some probably stopped by the saloons afterward to discuss the day. On San Jacinto day in 1841, the Travis Guards were in the parade, as were the Twin Sisters, cannon that were gifts of the citizens of Cincinnati and had been baptized in the battle of San Jacinto, and they were fired again for old times' sake. There were speeches and a cotillion at the capitol in the evening. May day was another occasion, the school children put on a program at the Capitol, and a queen was crowned. On July 4, 1846, Texas was a new state, and the celebration at the Capitol had church services, James H. Raymond read the declaration of Independence, there were speeches, a barbecue, and a cotillion closed the celebration. And the city and county that always loved a parade, saw the Hibernians parading on March 17, 1873. The San Jacinto day parade in 1874 was a large one; the Hibernians were in uniform, there were cadets from the Texas Military Institute, fire trucks decorated as floats, and the Travis Rifles.

During the early days, horse races were popular, at the track in the southeast sector of Austin, north of the Driving Park and east of Comal Street; later races were held in Hyde Park, and there was a popular track out at Moore's Crossing, back of the present Bergstrom Field. On September 16, 1846, the race track down in the “flat,” near the Driving Park, was the scene of a contest between Alfred Murray's bay mare and Captain Ross' brown mare. The sweepstakes were run at the down held on October 15, with \$500 entrance fee, and one of the entries was Holden's Big Drunk, by Sam Houston.<sup>31</sup> In 1854, there were horse races during the Christmas holidays, from December 27-30, with Judge Joseph Lee in charge.<sup>32</sup> And according to the *Tri-Weekly State Gazette* of June 29, 1870, the legislators were going out to the Driving Park, too, to the races and wasting the taxpayers' money to the tune of about \$1,000 daily—their salaries. During the 1880's the Driving Park reached its peak of popular-



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ity; opening day for the racing season was usually on Easter Sunday and county fairs and circuses were there later. By the time the century ended, the horse races were state events, and horses, came from all of Texas to race at the Driving Park, and the Driving Park Association, which had been organized, met in Austin in 1899, on July 3, 4, and 5.

Baseball was also a summer-time sport in Austin, and in 1869, the post-Civil War era, games were played between the military's 15th Infantry and Austin's Unknowns on June 29, and on July 14 they played again, with the military winning both games. By October, there were two more clubs playing, the Fireflies and the Dexters. They played their games back of the Capitol building, and the Unknowns showed up soon in new uniforms of blue shirts and pants with white belts and caps.<sup>33</sup> Austin's Unknowns later beat the Bastrop Minas in Austin, 55-17, but consoled the losers with a supper that evening.<sup>34</sup> In 1873, the Island City Club of Galveston scored 31 runs against Austin's Colorado Club's 42.<sup>35</sup> During the 1880's, the Texas League baseball games were down at the Driving Park, and their flag flew there twice for championship pennants. This Texas League was reorganized on December 15, 1887, and the Athletic Baseball Association was chartered with \$5,000.<sup>36</sup> In 1888, the paper carried this comment, "To the Ladies of Austin: Don't fear to compromise your sex by attending the baseball game. It is affirmed, on the best authority, that Mrs. Cleveland, now the first lady in the land, is enthusiastically devoted to the game. This should make it fashionable, and insure the game financial success in Texas."<sup>37</sup> In 1889, there were two teams in Austin, the Red Sox and the Hix, which were named for their sponsor, the Stacy-Hicks Cigar Company. Although these teams were rivals then, they combined later to form a team that was a charter member of the Texas League. Austin also had the Unknowns and the Unions, and Houston lost three games to them.<sup>38</sup> In 1889-1890, Austin won the pennant in the Texas League, winning 50 out of 96 games played.<sup>39</sup> And a team from Joplin, Missouri, was in Austin training for four months. During the 1890's, there were baseball grounds on the Kirby place, south of the Tenth Ward School, and the circus showed there, too. Then the Austin Baseball and Athletic Association leased land out near Zoo Park at the dam from the Austin Dam and Suburban Railway Com-

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pany, and there was a grandstand, pavilion, dressing rooms for the players, and about 150 reserved chairs for the games.

Mount Bonnell and Barton Springs were resorts, in spite of Indian scares; at Barton's they often watched the two baby buffaloes William Barton had tamed. The second Christmas in Austin, in 1840, saw the American and French flags being hoisted, in honor of Minister Flood and de Saligny, and it was auld lang syne time for them all.

During the years when Texas was a state, from 1846-60, the social life of Travis County was much the same, except that there were military bands, and summer evenings they played concerts in the Capitol grounds.

By July 4, 1849, there was a new trend, the usual dinner at the Capitol, but because of the temperance group at the picnic in the grounds, no drinks were served.

Always at Christmas time, there was the customary cotillion at the Capitol, but in 1856, the Christmas Eve cotillion was at Peck's store, later called Peck's hall, which became a popular place for parties. It was at the corner of East Pecan and Brazos, where the Driskill corner is in 1963. During these years, local talent was making merry with minstrels, although they had to improvise for costumes and make-up, fashioning wigs from moss, and blackening faces with burned cork.<sup>41</sup> Travis County's first circus came to Austin on February 3-4, 1852, and was billed as Sam Lathrop's circus.<sup>42</sup>

Governor Pease's inauguration was celebrated with a ball on December 21, 1855, and the summer of 1856 saw a levee being held at the Capitol on August 23, with supper served. In the 1850's and 1860's, many May poles were held on Mt. Bonnell. Travis County had another circus the summer of 1866, named the Stone Rosston and Murray, which entertained the citizens on Friday and Saturday, June 29 and 30.<sup>43</sup>

The citizens started off the year in January, 1867, by giving a ball for the Sixth Cavalry that was stationed in Austin.<sup>44</sup> In 1867, the town turned out for a tight rope walker, who performed at the corner of Congress and Hickory, and the Avenue Hotel is shown on the right on the southeast corner, in the picture. The old Capitol is at the top of the Avenue, and there are chinaberry trees on the sidewalks. Before the year of 1868 closed, there was excitement occasioned by the visit to Austin of Belle Boyd,

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the Confederate spy.<sup>45</sup> And the Austin Exchange, long a favorite hangout of Ben Thompson, was serving catawba and sherry cobbler, iced lemonade, and soda cocktails.<sup>46</sup>

And there was humor at the masked ball given by the Austin Star Club in January, 1870, with many caricatures of the carpetbaggers showing up in the costumes, one with a dirty shirt showing out of his carpetbag.<sup>47</sup> There were more minstrels, and something new was shown for the ladies,—side saddles. William Besserer's band played regularly at Turner's hall, and Besserer, who was born in Austin in the 1850's, organized singing societies and musical groups, and made merry with his music for half a century.

There was a new game popular in Travis County—croquet. And another circus. John H. Robinson brought a circus and menagerie to Austin to entertain spectators.<sup>48</sup> Summer saw boats racing on the river, and some enterprising person had a profitable business down at the foot of Congress, a "floating palace" where you could buy ice cream.<sup>49</sup>

Although Austin had the Sunday law in 1870, there were many amusements, particularly when the legislature was in session. Many went to Smith's Opera House, about where Buttre's is now; there were dancing schools; and Buaas' was advertising a traveling troupe of acrobats. The Austin Opera House opened on September 11, 1871, with the comedy, "Caste," and on September 21, presented the "Darling of the Regiment" and "My Neighbor's Wife."<sup>50</sup>

Even then, volunteers were helping the mental patients at the State Hospital with a July 4 celebration; the chinaberry grove at the asylum had flags flying; there was a supper with sandwiches, lemonade, ice cream and watermelons, finished off with singing and dancing and a fireworks display.

One of the popular places was the Austin Turn Verein, at the corner of Lavaca and Eighteenth Streets, where Scottish Rite is today, with bowling alleys and other activities. It was 120 feet long, and cost about \$35,000, with cornerstone ceremonies in April, 1872. This was the era when bowling became most popular, and beer gardens became bigger. Amusements were many; there was a skating rink in Austin; the Peak family of Swiss bell ringers showed here at the Opera House; Cole's "Monster Menagerie, circus, museum, caravan, and aviary" was in



Austin for about two days.<sup>51</sup>

In 1872, there was a grand mask ball at the Raymond House just before Christmas, to benefit the library and reading room; this library fund occasioned many gatherings like the "Merchant of Venice," played by amateur actors at the opera house for the library fund in December.<sup>52</sup>

A popular place in Travis County then, was Seiders Spring on Shoal Creek (see Quadrangle Map), where Lee Edward Seiders put in bath houses, picnic places, dance pavilion, and ran a hack from town out there. Many went there to play croquet, which was the popular pastime, especially by moonlight. And what was that Austin Benedict Club that was in Austin in 1872? Austin had a Mexican band then, with thirteen playing in it, and Professor Herzog's band played at the social hop at the Raymond House, where everyone exclaimed over the inside shutters and bells to call for service.

The outstanding event of 1875 for Travis County was the visit of Jefferson Davis on May 17. Everyone gathered at the depot to meet him; the Travis Rifles, all dressed in blue, probably did not look as good to him as did the military cadets from the Texas Military Institute, dressed in GREY. Herzog's band entertained the crowd, as the train was late. It was near noon when he arrived, passing through the lines of uniformed men and policemen, "in Monroe Miller's fine landau, drawn by four beautiful horses" up the Avenue, with Governors Coke and Lubbock and Mayor Wheeler, to the Avenue Hotel, where Davis made an appearance on the veranda above. Later, they went to Mark's gallery, where pictures were made, and after a drive over the city, he attended a reception at the Capitol that evening.<sup>53</sup> And of Austin he said: "In its physical aspects, it is the most beautiful place in Europe or America."<sup>54</sup> In July, the citizens gave a benefit at the Opera House for a homestead for Jeff Davis.

This same year of 1875 saw work being done out at the fairgrounds east of the Asylum, with an entrance just east of the asylum grounds. Soon, all was ready for the November fair; a fence encircled the tract, there was a grandstand 300 feet long, judges' stands, buildings for the exhibits, race tracks and stock space, and three water wells had been drilled. November 10 was opening day, with speeches, and on Friday, November 12,

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banks and businesses closed and the town turned out for the fair. One of the attractions was the 150-pound cake baked by Charles Lundberg, and later raffled off. D. J. Murchison took home a prize won by his mare, as did T. A. Day for his draft horse. At one of the booths, J. C. Petmecky was showing breech loading shotguns, and also being shown were Texas topaz and Austin diamonds. There were pacing or trotting horses in the rings, and at Paul Pressler's stand, near the grandstand, beer; at the art building, a picture of the Alamo.

There were other amusements in 1875. There was a ball at Turner's hall to celebrate the coming of those horse-drawn, or mule-drawn cars; Queen Mab and her court put on a pageant; there was an old folks' concert at the Opera House; there were pigeon shooting contests at Dr. Phillips' place on the Mount Bonnell road on Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, with Petmecky's giving out guns and 200 pigeons for the frolic.

Boat building was going on then, before the days of the dam, and Odom and Rutherford were working on an excursion boat, a double decker, seventeen feet high, and eighty feet long, and they figured on a \$3,000 engine to take about 200 people up the river to Bull Creek. It was ready for July 4, and the steamer Sunbeam struggled past the big eddy that we call Deep Eddy today, in the river, on past a cold spring gushing out of the bluff about 100 feet high, and past Bee Cave, then Bee Springs, surrounded by big bluffs and running back several hundred yards, with a road for wagons leading back to the springs. And this Sunbeam ran excursions to Barton's at three o'clock and six o'clock for a fee of fifty cents round trip.

This was the time when there was talk of listing in the paper the names of narcotic users—snuff! And down at Salge's Chop House, back of Tobin's Drug Store, the fashion in food was pigs' feet, and baked possum!

1876 started out with a leap year ball at the mansion. And on February 28, Sam Houston's daughter, Netti, was married at the mansion to W. L. Bringham, who was a teacher at the Texas Military Institute.<sup>55</sup>

The State Fair Association program of 1877 was published by the Statesman Steambook and Job office, and this fair was headed by T. B. Wheeler, and ran from October 16 to 20. George W. Sampson and George Zimpelman were vice presidents; E. C.

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Bartholomew, secretary; James R. Johnson, treasurer; Col. N. L. Norton, general superintendent; and R. F. Campbell was in charge of the gate.

In April, 1879, the 12th Sangerfest was held in Austin. The year 1880 started out with another leap year ball at the mansion by the I Club, with a supper, of which it was said, "On its luxuries culinary art had exhausted its skill and in its decorations woman's exquisite taste had set its seal."<sup>56</sup> Barnum's Great Show was showing in Austin on Friday and Saturday, October 15-16, for the first time in Texas.

The seventies could be called the entertainment era for Travis County and Austin, with plenty of places for parties: Tips Hall seated 700; weekly concerts were at Jones' Library, seating 500; 700 often filled Smith's Opera House, and Millett's could handle double that number. Turner's hall and beer garden seated 400 inside, and 4,000 in the garden; Scholz's garden took care of 300 inside, and about 250 in the garden.

Judge F. R. Tannehill, talking about the 80's in Austin, later, said Austin had 100 saloons, sixteen of them in four blocks, and then you could buy Four Roses for 25c a glass, and play chuck-a-luck and faro and monte.<sup>57</sup>

The sixth annual fair was held for Travis County from October 19-23, in 1880, and the banks and businesses closed on Friday for a day at the fair. Cattle were auctioned each night; there were confections, concessions, saloons; admission was 50c, children, half of that; and there was a special tent where Austin ladies could have a drink of beer. The railroads agreed to charge regular rates for freight on stock coming to the fair, and to return them free to place of shipment. Everything was at the fair,—“Last Chance,” a horse who had won races in Travis County, was for sale, and the exhibits included agricultural implements, beer, beets, boots, bread, bricks, bridles, broom corn, buckets, buggies, bureaus, farm and garden products, horses, machinery all made in Texas. The fair association had George W. Sampson for president; E. C. Bartholomew, secretary and treasurer; Frank Hamilton and R. A. Blandford, vice presidents; John T. Haynes, general superintendent; C. S. West, superintendent of speed ring; Ed Christian, superintendent of gates, and George B. Zimpelman, marshal.<sup>58</sup>

At Pressler's garden, on West Pine Street, they were build-



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ing a grandstand, for concerts and dances, with a water fountain in the shape of a star, and were setting up swings in the grounds for the children. By this time Austin was referred to as "sleeping beauty," but one that has waked up.<sup>59</sup>

The fair program for 1881, was handled by the Capitol State Fair Association, with John Hancock, president; John A. Green and A. J. Peeler, vice presidents; E. C. Bartholomew, secretary and treasurer; N. L. Norton, general superintendent; C. S. West, superintendent of speed ring; Ed Christian, superintendent of gates; and Ed Creary, marshal. Opening day was October 18.

In 1881, at Smith's Opera House, Madame Dupree was collecting a crowd for her marathon 100-hour contest "heel and toe," with a \$300 prize.<sup>60</sup> The Texas Siftings commented on the annual Del Valle pic-nic basket, saying "The committee of arrangements will furnish all the luxuries incidental to properly conducted pic-nics, such as red ants, burrs, seed-ticks."<sup>61</sup>

There was excitement at the horse races at the fair grounds in February, 1882, with a ten-mile race between Lillian Devere, of Canada, and Nellie Burke, with the latter winning the ten-mile lap in 19:36.<sup>62</sup> Miss Burke was rated as the champion equestrienne of the United States, and challenges were issued for another race.<sup>63</sup>

On February 1, 1883, there was a fancy dress ball at Millett's Opera House. Early that month, there was a freeze in Travis County, and this occasioned many coasting parties on the hills on East Ash Street, by the Southern Presbyterian Church, and also close to the Capitol.<sup>64</sup> Sports were a gathering occasion then in Travis County. Game cocks were not illegal, and there were from 300-400 people in Austin for the tournament held during the fair that fall. The fair also featured a deer chase, "with ten picked fox hounds," and there was a wild steer tournament.<sup>65</sup> Polo was being played, too.<sup>66</sup> And a "water velocipede of Ben Thompson's, was going up and down the Colorado River."<sup>67</sup>

By this time, people in Austin and Travis County were forgetting the old bull pen that had been in that neighborhood, and Civil War indignities associated with the area, and were gathering at Pressler's garden, where Paul Pressler ran Austin's first beer garden. And garden it was, extending from up on West Pecan Street, on back to the brewery near the bank of the Colo-

rado River, where the street car company plant is today. The entrance was where Pressler Street and West Pecan Street meet. Ride out West 6th Street and locate this, and envision the gala groups sitting around at the tables in the oak canopied gardens down to the river, with the old bandstand centered in the middle; often featuring visiting bands and musicians; but always there was an old music box, with its hand crank, for children to wind. Because this was not a place where the men went to drink beer; it was where papa took the whole family, in the surrey, out the old wagon trail. What the children liked most was the alligator tank Pressler had; that entertained them while parents were dancing the schottische at the dance floor on the grounds. Many courting couples slipped away from chaperons, down to the boat-house at the river, and took a moonlight ride. And always the men vied with each other at the rifle range. Up at Millett's Opera House, when the opera season ended, Captain Millett had a skating rink.<sup>68</sup> Peck's corner, and hall upstairs, were still popular for parties, and near it, at the alley was the William Oliphant Building, where General Reynolds had his offices.<sup>69</sup>

The 1884 fair operated with Lewis Hancock as president of the Capitol Fair Association, John Caldwell and J. W. Graham as vice-presidents, E. C. Bartholomew as secretary-treasurer; J. W. Driskill, general superintendent; and John Hancock, superintendent of speed ring. The fair lasted from October 7 to 11, and in their program had many advertisers: Dr. Flavious J. Smith, veterinarian at 704 Congress; the Avenue Hotel, with rooms for \$2 per day; and the Capitol Copying House at 916 Congress, where H. B. Hillyer was photographer. A regatta on the river by the bridge was sponsored by the Austin Athletic Association, with the first barge race run in Austin, and A. P. Wooldridge as umpire. One crew wearing white, had F. M. Crawford, H. Pfaefflin, J. R. Smyth, and N. J. Strueber. The other in blue, had E. J. Cavileer, W. T. Dixon, J. L. Evans, and W. A. L. Knox. The race was run to the railroad bridge and back, and was won by the blues.<sup>70</sup>

Then, the Austin Greys drill team won second place at the state meet in Houston,<sup>71</sup> and were honored at a supper and ball at the Millett Opera House. Not to be outdone, the ladies had their own broom drill team, and that was the year when the "Langtry bangs" were the fashion.<sup>72</sup> And the Innocence Abroad

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Club had 30 members, young gentlemen and ladies.<sup>73</sup>

There were tyrolean concerts at Scholz Garden in 1885, and that fall, Millett's Opera House, which still stands between Brazos and Congress on East 9th Street, was booking many first-class entertainments, including Gilbert and Sullivan's "Mikado."<sup>74</sup> This was when medicine shows were popular; one of them had a big tent in Austin for his show, and had an organ grinder at Congress and Pecan, to advertise his show, in 1886.

By 1887, there were all kinds of clubs in Austin; a bike riding club, the Elite Pleasure Club, Marguerite Club, Travis Cricket Club, Owl Club, Knickerbocker Dancing Club, German clubs, giving dances and calico balls and masquerades. There were the Germans, dances which were given in Austin that many today remember, promenades in the late evenings, billiard parlors, and James A. Nabb had one next door to the Hotel Orr, called "The Resort."<sup>75</sup> Whist was a new game and was played nightly, and there was an Argyle Club.

There was comment too, about the twenty poker playing places "for the accommodation of the sportive legislators."<sup>76</sup> And the old Gem Lake was a popular place for outings, school plays and concerts, with its pavilion about where Baker School is today. Located in the 3900 block of Avenue B, it had a park, a crystal fountain that fascinated the children, and Gem Lake was in the center of the park, which also had a skating rink. It was here that a benefit play started the fund for Seton Hospital, which became a reality after the turn of the century. The street cars ran every ten minutes out to Gem Lake in Hyde Park.

Along more cultural lines, Austin knew the Southern song-bird, Adelaide Randall, the Mikado, Edwin Boothe, Hamlet, Monte Cristo, in 1887. Some of the socials even grew out of prohibition talk. Prominent people were concerned over it; there were parades with torchlights; there was a lawn festival on the capitol grounds, with speeches, and in the election in August, prohibition was rejected.

There was a fascinating new soda fountain at Somostz's drug store, which attracted a crowd. Raffles were not illegal then, and always, something was being given away at the Iron Front Saloon.

There were moonlight boat rides, and the Belle of Austin was the pleasure boat operating up the river, by the Austin



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Steamboat Company.<sup>77</sup> Lawn tennis was popular and East Austin was the social center. The opera house was featuring *Othello* and *Julius Caesar*. Men were wearing Prince Albert suits. There was a Scandinavian Society in Austin, but what was the Can't-Get-Away Club? Millett's Opera House opened the season on October 1, with "Irish Hearts of Old," with Irish jigs and songs, and later, "The Chimes on Normandy."<sup>78</sup>

Travis County was the site for the yearly state encampment for volunteers each spring, with a week of drills, and the citizens gave a courtesy ball always on the last night. Camp Mabry, named for Woodford H. Mabry, adjutant general of Texas, was established in 1890 as a permanent camp for Texas' volunteer guard, which became the National Guard later.

The Whist Club was meeting at the governor's mansion, and there was a bike club, too, which made trips out to Fiskville and St. Elmo, by moonlight. The ladies were buying lottery tickets for the Denver lottery, at the Union Depot drug store.

Phonographs that produced music and speeches were being exhibited by the Smoot-Stayton society, and Monte Cristo was playing at the Millett Opera House, with James O'Neill. The Austin Athletic Club was meeting at the Protection Fire Company No. 3 hall, and there was a Fat Man's Club, which was "immense and brimful of fun."<sup>79</sup>

Summer concerts were played at Hyde Park by the city band on Thursday and Sunday evenings.<sup>80</sup> And the firemen started the custom of chivarees, by serenading E. O. Sanford and his bride.

From July 12-20, 1892, there was the 2nd annual encampment of the volunteer guard companies, at the new state encampment grounds at Camp Mabry, and the new grounds were officially named Camp Mabry.<sup>81</sup>

At Pressler's Garden, the German-American citizens society was organized on May 8.<sup>82</sup> The Austin Fire Department organized its dancing club, with W. J. McNamara as secretary.

The dam was finished and dedicated in May, 1893, and soon became the social center. Bulian's beer garden opened, there was a zoo park with animals, and a diamond for baseball, regattas were held regularly. June, 1893, was one such occasion. Austin citizens formed a regatta association to sponsor them yearly, with excursion cars being run out there. Participants

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and spectators traveled to Austin in special trains for the regatta of June 7-10, 1893. Civic-minded citizens donated the money for prizes, with one being \$1,000. Here to take part in this International Regatta were Ten Eyck of St. Louis, once the champ; Teemer of St. Louis; Hosmer, New England champ; Stansbury of Australia; Gaudaur, American champ, who won first prize in both 1893 and 1894, in Austin.

The lake's life was from 1893 to 1900. The name McDonald, for the dam, was well known to Austin, since John McDonald was skipper of the Ben Hur, and his father was mayor of Austin from 1889 to 1895, and the lake was named for him.

The Ben Hur was a celebrated craft, a sidewheel steamer, and could carry about 1,500 people on its cruises up the Colorado. For 50c, one could ride the round trip, in about 3½ hours. It was being built north of the dam, while the dam was under-way, at a spot in the river where the water level was low. It was finished by the professional builders just as the dam was, and crowds on the shore on the town side watched as the water filled the lake, to see if the Ben Hur was seaworthy.

Dances were held on its decks, but it was not a money maker. Then it was condemned and staked on the west side of the lake near Bee Creek, in about 1899, and stayed there until the dam broke in 1900, when it was demolished.

There was an estimated crowd of over 25,000 people in Austin for the regatta of 1893, and Saturday, June 10, was a big day for Austin. The steamers, Ben Hur, Chautauqua, and Dixie were all busy, and the Dixie had a trailer behind her, called the Lone Star.<sup>83</sup>

These were the days when the Chautauque was a picnic spot, with two restaurants, one up on the hill, and one down at the landing. There was a 100-foot wharf, and campers sites.<sup>84</sup>

Mr. Paggi had two boats, the Belle of Austin and Fleet Wing, which also took people up to the encampment grounds at Camp Mabry. The Ben Hur was 181 feet long, could carry a crowd on its three decks; the Cora was 50 feet long and took 50 people; the Chautauqua was 75 feet, carrying 500 people; the Dixie was 50 feet and could carry that many people, 50; the Belle of Austin was 55 feet, and Fleet Wing was 30 feet, and carried 20 people; the Corrigan Yawl was 22 feet and the Telephone was 48 feet long, and could carry 70.<sup>85</sup> Everyone went

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out to the dam to see the different kinds of entertainment; Professor Speedy entertained with a high diving and trapeze act 75 feet into the lake.<sup>86</sup>

At the regatta in 1894, the Austin Musicians Union and other locals had a show, "Pinafore" for the spectators. In this, many Austinites took part. Max Bickler, about 12, was a cabin boy. It was during these years that Austin "held the largest rowing regatta ever held in the world" and "the largest interstate military drill ever held in the United States."<sup>87</sup>

The East Austin Hose Company gave a phantom ball in 1893, and the 1890 version of today's style show was going on at Phil Hatzfeld's store, where they were featuring Parisian models in hats and bonnets.<sup>88</sup> Mrs. John Bremond chaperoned a boating party up the lake on the Dixie, and everyone was having picnics at the Chautauqua grounds—the firemen, Bickler's Academy, and the Concordia Verein.<sup>89</sup>

1894 was when a new note was added to the Great International Regatta held in Austin, May 15-18, when Teemer showed up with his craft's shell constructed of aluminum, rather than cedar as used in other regattas. There were 5,000 bricks offered as a prize by Mike Butler of the brick company, to the winner in a race between Captain Lucy and Charles Cortissoz, which was won by the latter by default. Prizes were \$1,500, \$500, and \$300 in the one-man shell races, and a gold watch to the winner of the swim race.<sup>90</sup>

The 1890's were the time when it was customary for young ladies to be at home to their gentlemen friends on the first day of the year. There were popular pastimes like cake walks, horse shows, and 1894 saw an exciting race in the springtime between horses of Jim Martin and the Moore brothers.<sup>91</sup>

Morning Germans were started in 1894, and one was held at the Capitol, in the House, by University students, on Tuesday morning, June 19, 1894, from 7 to 10 a.m.<sup>92</sup> That summer, the paper commented: "The hot wave did not reach Chiles; it couldn't. His soda is so cold; his store so shady, and his electric fans so active, they make it too lonesome for hot weather and thirst."<sup>93</sup>

There was a Nationalist Circulating Library here in January, 1895, with \$1.50 annual membership dues.<sup>94</sup> And one could see "Ten Nights in a Bar Room" at the opera house. Cake walks



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were begin given for the benefit of the Confederate Veterans Home, and these men had a big day on April 21, with a trip up the lake on the Ben Hur to the Chautauqua grounds. Captain Grumbles had gone out the day before and barbecued a beef for them.<sup>95</sup>

In that year of 1895, Austin won a spot in Leslie's Weekly. Under the caption, "Types of Southern Beauties in Prominent Society Women of Austin, Texas," with photographs by Journey, there were featured the following Austin ladies: Maud E. Bremond, Mamie E. North, Mrs. Lewis Hancock, Ida May Archer, Mrs. E. M. House, Bessie Beall, Rosine Maillot, Annie Hunter, Mrs. A. W. Terrell, Helen Beall, Mrs. W. Bremond, Mamie Maloney, Louise Shelley, Irene Palm, Athalia L. North, and Bessie Rector.<sup>96</sup>

On Monday, November 4, 1895, the regatta at the lake on that first day had a four-oar race between Bubear, Barry, Wingate, Haines, and another team of Charles and Jake Gaudaur, Teemer and Rogers. That year, Ed Paggi won the amateur championship for Texas, while Will Paggi was clowning for the crowd. The city cooperated, and the five national banks and James H. Raymond and Company closed on Wednesday and Thursday, at one o'clock, to go out to the regatta.<sup>97</sup> The book-makers were quartered at the Driskill, taking bets on the American and English crews, who were competing.

Even today as in the 1890's, many from Travis County journey out to Driftwood for the reunion each July, in the light of the moon. It began in 1896 when a group of Confederate veterans in Central Texas met to perpetuate their reunions far into the future. Every year since then, there has been a reunion at Camp Ben McCulloch, at Driftwood.

Joe Cruze, whose father was one of the organizers, lives near the camp today, to which crowds come yearly to the 40-acre tract on Onion Creek. It is the largest Confederate camp in the South, and the only one that owns its own meeting place. Always, the old soldiers selected a veteran as their commander, but in 1938, realizing that death would soon take them all, they deeded their camp to their sons, to carry on; by 1946, the last surviving soldier of their group was gone, and the Sons of the Confederates took over; in turn, they deeded it to their sons, the Grandsons of the Confederates.

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And still Travis County folk meet with them annually, and they perpetuate the memories of the men in grey from this area. Have you ridden over CONFEDERATE HIGHWAY which leads to their camp?

In 1896, the Hancock Opera House opened in Austin, and George Walker, formerly manager of the Millett Opera House, became manager, until about 1919. It was a show place when it opened, with ushers in full dress.<sup>98</sup> The box on the left was reserved for the governor, and the right one for the Hancock family, but after 1925 there were no more boxes. The most popular place was the "peanut," and the stories of the antics of adolescents up there are still told today.

In the fall of 1896, Ringling Brothers brought their circus to Travis County.<sup>99</sup> Then, the Austin Baseball and Athletic Association leased land out near Zoo Park, at the dam, from the Austin Dam and Suburban Railway Company, and there was a grand stand and pavilion, and a dressing room for the players, and about 150 reserved chairs for the game.

In January, 1896, Austin was amazed during the bike tournament out at Zoo Park at the dam, when the world champ, a four-year-old boy, Charles McAdams, Jr., set a record with 57 seconds for the quarter mile.

It was in 1897, on March 2, that Independence day was really celebrated in Austin. It had been a sore subject with the students at the University that they had no holiday or celebration on that day, so a small group of them gathered at the football field and fired two cannons for Texas; among this group were men who later became judges, governor, and senators. But the real celebration that day was out at Bulian's, located near the dam, across from the powerhouse. Jacoby's was a popular place, too, and old-timers remember the wine sampling that went on there, when brewery representatives made their rounds, and citizens were invited to serve as samplers. There were oyster roasts at Jacoby's, and it was customary for the law students to go to Bulian's to celebrate, the engineering students went to Jacoby's, and it was here that their prized patron, an old statue, Alexander Frederick Claire, was christened and began participating in their ceremonies after 1900. Scholz garden was the home of the Austin Saenggerrunde, and it was there that Bes-serer's band had concerts. Bowling, singing, and dancing have

had a popular place in entertainment there, and Scholz Garden is the last left today of the beer gardens that were group gathering places for so long in Austin.

Entertainment at the new opera house included Eddie Foy and Rice's *Evangeline*. And a revival going on out at Hyde Park, drew a crowd by using an open street car with an organ and singers and music, to advertise it. In October, 1898, a crowd was at the lake to see the show when a seven-strand cable was stretched from the top of Mt. Bonnell to the other side of the lake, and Miss Hazel Keyes slid down it. Later, the cable was strung to the west side of the lake down below the dam, and run to the powerhouse, and Miss Keyes slid down it, hanging to the trolley by her hair, with Miss Jennie Yan Yan, her pet monkey, following her.<sup>100</sup>

In 1898, ex-Governor James Hogg gave a "dress reform party" on Wednesday, July 20, and inexpensive clothes were decreed.<sup>101</sup>

In those last years before the century ended, the age of the automobile was not arrived. The Driving Park went on with its horse races. No one remembered this era better than Mrs. Priscilla Clifton Hamby, wife of "General" Hamby, whose name derived from being named for Stonewall Jackson. He and his brother, Charles Hamby, grew up near Moore's crossing, where Hamby hill is on the left and Engler hill on the right. Out near Montopolis, in the late nineties, General Hamby had a zoo, with bears, coons, deer, foxes, hogs, peacocks, possum, and wolves. There were tables in the garden for beer, and this was Austin's first zoo, and after the horse races, many went out there, and there were saloons all the way into Austin, the Shamrock, the Silver King, the Crystal Bar, Hamby's Ark, and particularly in the 400 block of East 6th Street, where the Big Four Saloon competed with the Blazing Stump Saloon. And even then, there were crusaders against slot machines.<sup>102</sup>

In July, there was a fish fry and chowder out on the Ben Hur, which by then was just a floating palace over at "Nature's Park" at Bee Creek, and the smaller steamer, Cora, made trips carrying customers over there.<sup>103</sup> The Travis County fair was held from Saturday, October 21, to October 28, and Major George W. Littlefield was president of the fair association.

In the 1900's, the recreation in Austin has been supervised



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in the past forty years by the City Recreation Department, which was an outgrowth of the need for its organizational services in all phases of sports, parks, and playgrounds. Under its directors during that time, James Garrison and Beverly Sheffield, many people have been associated with the department whose names are synonymous with service, among them Mrs. Josephine Bailey since 1932, Joe Prowse, Jr., for about thirty years, and George Mabson, who for many years was director of activities for Negroes in East Austin, serving for about thirty years, until he retired.

### FOLKLORE

Folklore is the flavoring of history. The story of Austin and Travis County is steeped with it. Folklore is the Shot Tower, the Fernandez house with its secret stairway and cellar, Ben Thompson, Nameless, Texas, Confederate Highway.

Folklore is Dillingham's pasture, a legend to University students, at Walnut Creek. Also, it is the axe murderer who made the citizens nervous in 1884-1885. His victims were women, always killed while sleeping. No one knows, even today, who murdered the thirteen people, with the last murder being on Christmas, 1885.

Folklore is the old front galleries, running the width of a house, and always with a porch swing and rockers. There were porch steps to sit on, honeysuckle to sweeten the summer air, lightning bugs to catch, neighbors to gather and talk, lazy, lulling talk. And always in Austin, like sentries in the sky, the tower lights. And the oaks and the elms and the shadows.

Folklore is Wooldridge Park that has known children chasing up and down its hills for a century and a quarter. Wooldridge Park, with its bandstand and summer concerts.

Folklore is the story told to the J. W. McClendon family by Mrs. Hally Bryan Perry of the origin of the song, "Wait for the Wagon and We'll All Take a Ride." In the 1850's, a young member of the legislature in Austin suggested adjournment early and a picnic, with dates, at Mount Bonnell, and returning by moonlight. A transportation committee was named to assemble horses and carriages, etc., when someone suggested, "let's get a wagon and we all can go." It was a long ride out there then, but they saw the sunset over the river, had their picnic, descended Mt. Bonnell, to ride back to Austin by daybreak. Next morn-

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ing, on the desk of each legislator was the poem, "Wait for the Wagon and We'll All Take a Ride." Years later, the song was used by the Studebaker Company for its wagon.

Folklore is the story of Eugene Robinson who hobnobbed with O. Henry, double-dated with him, who raced him in growing a mustache. Folklore is the story of Miles F. Byrne, long dead, who worked with O. Henry too, and knew his story.

Folklore is the post-Civil War time when the Austin jail knew men like Wes Hardin, who hid out in the hills northwest of Austin in June, 1875, and he and Jim Taylor, in trouble with the law, hid at Fancy Jim Taylor's six miles northwest of Austin in the cedar brakes. Folklore is the story of those rebels against reconstruction, with their Winchesters, who went from gun glory to the grave in a few short years.

Folklore is Bois d'Arc Street (Seventh) in the 1880's and 1890's, which could then claim on its east side such places as the State Cemetery, the French Legation, St. David's Church, St. Mary's Academy, and on its west side the street divides, and did then, into a high road and a low road, both in the same direction, in the 400 block. When paving came to Austin, it simply followed the old wagon tracks and footpaths of that high road and that low road. The ducks and geese were always a target for the small boys as they idled down the low road to Little Shoal Creek.

To see that section of the city as it once looked to Austin people, who were adolescent when Austin was too, let's wander today to that hill, follow in fancy two little lads walking out Bois d'Arc Street, now West Seventh Street, and west of Guadalupe, where the road divides, they will stop, where one trail of footpaths led up the hill to San Antonio Street, and the other trail, running parallel, goes down the hill. Can't you just see those small boys standing there, with their fishing poles, and one little boy saying, "You take the high road, and I'll take the low road," but he wouldn't add, and "I'll get there afore ye," because he had other plans. The other boy went on up the high road to San Antonio Street, up Sheehan's hill, past where the Woman's Club is now, on over to Ninth Street, to get yeast for his mother from Messer's Bakery there. Idling down across the old wooden bridge that crossed Little Shoal around Ninth Street.

The little boy who took the low road, with other plans? He

## *History of Travis County*

followed the dusty, dirt path to Little Shoal Creek, flowing south and crossing Bois d'Arc Street in the 500 block. He skipped across the rocks that provided a path over the creek, and turned northward to follow the creek, and Nueces Street, up a way, to where there was a wonderful waterfall. He took the long way 'round to the bakery, because his plans were to fish awhile for perch and crawfish there near that waterfall. Sitting there on the banks of Little Shoal, he could look up the high hill to where the Woman's Club is now, and see the old rock quarry, and the orchard and gardens below, and the high rock walls that protected the homes and orchards and gardens down there from the spring freshets which sent Little Shoak out of bounds. Here, the boys often dug worms, and chunked rocks at the ducks coming down the hill to the water.

Today, the old creek is filled in, paved over, and gone is the spring where it started, around Twentieth Street, in the alley back of Newman Hall. Today, you can almost cruise in your car along its course, down San Antonio and Nueces Streets, and in the lower places now and then you can spot a sycamore standing where it sprung then along the banks of the creek.

But the days are gone when that little boy fished there at the little creek, and his mother, watching into the western sunset, and looking for her lad with that yeast from Messer's bakery, must have known he had taken the lower road to get in some fishing. From that little boy, whom you know as Max Bickler, have come many of these memories of Austin and its folklore.

Another who remembers the bakery and the bridge there, and who watched the perch fishers from the far side of the creek, on her way to the bakery too, was Julia Sheldon.

Folklore is the tombstone in Oakwood Cemetery in Austin, that has intrigued many people. Does anyone know its story? No one seems to know it, caretakers at the cemetery, or old-timers in Travis County. There are lines on the old tombstone, "The star that stood by the side of the one who lies here," and on the other side of the monument, these words, weather worn, that were etched so long ago, "The sign X was on his forehead," and "This star was over him—He tried to be his brother's keeper and failed, and hid himself under the name of the Lone Palm Tree."



### *Historic Facts and Figures*

And the inscription, "Baylor Baynham Palmer, born Norfolk, Virginia, Died November 11, 1885, age 45, Captain of Artillery under General Lee." All under an etched replica of palm leaves, and a triangle encompassing an eye.

Folklore is the flavoring that blends our culture and tradition into history, and it is proper that we look pridefully at our past, so that each generation may know a renaissance of respect and regard for the heritage of history. On the National Archives building in Washington, there are carved five prophetic words, "What is past is prologue."



## APPENDIX

### TRAVIS RIFLES

Organized at Austin, Texas, in August, 1861, and mustered into the **Confederate Army** at Camp Henry E. McCulloch near Victoria, Texas, on November 14, 1861, as **Company G, 6th Regiment of Texas Infantry**; the field officers of said regiment being at that time Robt. R. Garland, Colonel; T. Scott Anderson, Lieut. Colonel; H. M. Haskell, Major; J. K. P. Campbell, Commissary; Udolpho Wolf, Quarter Master; and S. I. Garland, Adjutant. (Note: The 6th Texas Infantry Regiment afterwards became a part of what was known later in the war as **Granbury's Texas Brigade**, Pat Cleburne's Division, Army of Tennessee. ....)

Rhoads Fisher, Captain—Wounded at Atlanta, Ga. Promoted to Major. Now lives at Burnet, Texas.

Geo. W. Sampson, 1st Lieut.—Promoted to Captain in the Q. M. Department in 1863. **Dead.**

Darius Marsh, 2nd Lieut.—Killed in battle at Snake Creek Gap, Ga., in 1864.

Sebron, G. Sneed, 3rd Lieut.—Promoted to Captain on Brigade Staff in 1864. Wounded at Jonesboro. **Dead.**

David M. Wilson, Orderly Sergt.—Promoted to Captain of Cavalry in spring of 1863. Lives at Austin, Texas.

Alexander, W. A.—Took the oath of allegiance to U. S. in prison.

Alexander, N. J.—Discharged for disability in 1862 before two months service.

Alford, H. M.—Died in 1863 from exposure in service.

Amidon, Dwight—Detached for service on steam boat in 1862. Supposed to be dead.

Brown, James F.—**Dead.**

Bird, W. M.—Transferred to Flournoy's Regt. **Dead.**

Baldwin, James—Wounded at Franklin. **Dead.**

Burleson, John T.—Died in prison.

Burleson, Cabe—Wounded at Jonesboro. **Dead.**

Carrington, R. E.—Transferred to Flournoy's Regt. **Dead.**

Condell, John W.—Transferred to Navy in 1864. Supposed to be dead.

Costa, Jos. A.—**Dead.**

Crossthwait, R. H. L.—Wounded at Arkansas. Post. **Dead.**

DeHority, E.—Wounded at Atlanta. **Dead.**

Dougherty, John S.—Died in prison.

Dukes, James—Wounded at Jonesboro. **Dead.**

Dunson, Wm. M.—Promoted to Lieutenant and was in command of the company at the surrender at Greensboro, N. C., in 1865. Wounded at Franklin. Lives six miles N. E. of Austin.

Gatlin, Nathan—Died in prison.

Giles, W. L.—Promoted to Lieutenant of Cavalry in spring of 1864. Lives 8 miles N. E. of Austin.

Grumbles, Joseph W.—Died in 1863 while on sick furlough.

Grumbles, Sam H.—Discharged for disability and Died in 1862.

Grumbles, Tom A.—Discharged for disability and Died in 1862.

Glasscock, L. P.—Wounded at Jonesboro. Now lives in New Mexico.

Glasscock, F. M.—Discharged for disability in 1862.

Hill, Able W.—Died in prison.

Hill, Ed—Permanently disabled in R.R. accident in Va. in 1863. **Dead.**

Holman, Geo. I.—Wounded at Nashville. **Dead.**

Hudson, Green—Died in hospital in spring of 1862.

Hamilton, J. W. N.—Wounded at Chickamauga, New Hope Church, and Jonesboro. Lives near Duval in Travis County.

Jenkins, Saml. L.—Died in hospital in Ga. in 1863.

Johnson, John—Discharged for disability and Died in 1862.

Jernigan, H. J.—Wounded at Arkansas Post and Missionary Ridge.

Promoted to Lieutenant and resigned on account of wounds. **Dead.**

Jourdan, George W.—Died in hospital in Ga. in 1863.

Jourdan, Wm. M.—Died in prison.



Kelley, Jacob—Wounded at Chickamauga. **Dead.**  
 Kline, Henry J.—Died in prison.  
 Labensky, Chas. C.—Wounded at Franklin. Lives near Buda, Texas.  
 Loevell, D. W.—**Dead.**  
 Lowry, Ransom—Killed at Arkansas Post.  
 Lowry, Albert—Died in prison.  
 Malitzky, Louis—Wounded at Franklin. **Dead.**  
 Robertson, Benoni—Killed at Chickamauga.  
 Rutledge, Wm. P. Jr.—Died in prison.  
 Rountree, H. C.—Wounded at Lost Mountain, Ga. Lives near Marble Falls, Texas.  
 Sevier, Jefferson—Killed at New Hope Church, Ga.  
 Stanley, George W.—Died in prison.  
 Sweem, John—Died while prisoner at St. Louis. Froze to death.  
 Stephenson, Jos. T.—Detached in 1862. **Dead.**  
 Stephenson, A. B.—Wounded at Peach Tree Creek, Ga. Lives at San Antonio, Texas.  
 Smith, James W.—Wounded at Franklin. **Dead.**  
 Sims, James—Discharged for disability in 1862. **Dead.**  
 Sims, Frank M.—Took the oath of allegiance to U. S. in prison in 1863.  
 Sneed, Wm. J.—Wounded at Missionary Ridge and permanently disabled. Lives in Travis County, Texas, near and S.E. of Austin.  
 Turner, James M.—Wounded at Atlanta and Franklin. Lives at San Marcos, Texas.  
 Turner, James M. V.—Died in prison.  
 Tucker, J. T.—Died in hospital in Alabama in 1864.  
 Taylor, James—Took oath of allegiance to U. S. in prison in 1863.  
 Teague, G. Marion—Died in prison.  
 Teaff, N. F.—Died in 1862 while on sick furlough.  
 Tinnin, Wm.—Wounded at Franklin. **Dead.**  
 Terrell, C. D.—Died in hospital in Ga. in 1864.  
 Woodward, J. Polk—Wounded at Franklin. **Dead.**  
 Wilkes, B. F.—Wounded at New Hope Church, Ga. Lives at Snyder, Scurry County, Texas.  
 Wilson, Don—Discharged for disability in 1862. **Dead.**  
 Wilson, A. Jephtha—Died in hospital in Alabama in 1864.  
 Williams, Saml.—Died in hospital at Arkansas Post in 1862.  
 Walker, James M.—Took the oath of allegiance to U. S. in prison in 1863 and afterwards joined Federal Army. **Dead.**  
 The above and foregoing is a list of Co. G, 6th Infy., Granbury's Brigade, Cleburne's Division, Hardee's Corps, Army of Tennessee C.S.A. furnished on November 26, 1904, by W. J. Oliphant of Austin, Texas.  
 [Endorsed] Company "G"  
 6th Texas Infy. Regt.  
 from Austin, Texas

X X X

## ROLL OF CAPT. RHOADES FISHER. COMPANY "G" OF COL. R. R. GARLAND'S REGIMENT OF TEXAS VOLUNTEERS

(Given are names, rank, county enrolled, date mustered into service.)

Rhoads Fisher, Captain—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 G. W. Sampson, 1st Lt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 D. Marsh, 2nd Lt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 S. G. Sneed, 2nd Lt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 D. M. Wilson, 1st Sgt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 James Taylor, 2nd Sgt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Joseph A. Costa, 3rd Sgt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 E. DeHority, 1st Capt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 G. W. Stanley, 2nd Capt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 J. T. Stevenson, 3rd Capt.—Hays County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 R. H. L. Crosthwait, 4th Capt.—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Ross B. Mellenger, Bugler—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 F. N. Simms, Drummer—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.

Alexander, W. A., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Alexander, W., Private—Travis County, Jan. 12, 1862.  
 Amidon, D., Private—Travis County, Jan. 6, 1862.  
 Bird, W. H., Private—Burnett County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Brown, J. F., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Burleson, I. C., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Burleson, J. F., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Carrington, R. E., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Condell, R. W., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Dougherty, J. S., Private—Burnet County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Dunson, W. M., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Dukes, J., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Gatlin, N. W., Private—Hays County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Giles, W. L., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Glasscock, L. P., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Glasscock, F., Private—Travis County, Jan. 12, 1862.  
 Grumbles, T. A., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Grumbles, S., Private—Travis County, Jan. 1, 1862.  
 Hill, E. B., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Hill, A. W., Private—Travis County, Dec. 22, 1861.  
 Holman, G. I., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Hamilton, J., Private—Travis County, Jan. 8, 1862.  
 Jernigan, A. J., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Jenkins, S. L., Private—Bastrop County, Feb. 17, 1862.  
 Jourdan, W. A., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Johnson, J., Private—Hays County, Feb. 19, 1862.  
 Kelly, J., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Kline, J., Private—Travis County, Feb. 12, 1862.  
 Labensky, C. C., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Loevell, D. W., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Lowrey, R., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 McClure, H. M., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Millett, E. E., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Morris, S. W., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Meeks, M., Private—Hays County, Feb. 12, 1862.  
 Meeks, R., Private—Hays County, Feb. 16, 1862.  
 Malitzky, L., Private—Travis County, Feb. 19, 1862.  
 Oldham, W. H., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Oliphant, W. J., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Pickens, I., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Piper, B. F., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Peck, S. R., Private—De Witt County, Nov. 26, 1861.  
 Peel, W., Private—Travis County, Jan. 7, 1862.  
 Patterson, R., Private—Travis County, Feb. 21, 1862.  
 Ralston, J., Private—Travis County, March 14, 1861.  
 Robertson, B., Private—Travis County, March 14, 1861.  
 Roundtree, H. C., Private—Hays County, Dec. 18, 1861.  
 Severs, J., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Sneed, W. J., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Stephenson, A. B., Private—Hays County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Sweem, J. M., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Simms, J., Private—Travis County, Jan. 27, 1862.  
 Terrell, C. D., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Tinnin, W., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Tucker, J. T., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Turner, J. M., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Turner, J. M. V., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Teaff, W. S., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Teague, G. M., Private—Travis County, Dec. 26, 1861.  
 Walker, J. M., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Williams, S., Private—Caldwell County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Wilson, D. W., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.  
 Woodward, J. P., Private—Travis County, Nov. 14, 1861.

Wilks, B. F., Private—Travis County, March 19, 1862.

X X X

**Muster Roll  
of the  
AUSTIN CITY LIGHT ARTILLERY COMPANY.**

**Battery No. . Organized June 14, 1861.**

Captain—H. Wilke.  
First Lieutenant—H. R. Von Bieberstein.  
2d Lieutenant—H. Green.  
Orderly Sergeant—H. L. Vogt.  
1st Sergeant—F. Schmitz.  
2d Sergeant—C. Ohrndorf.  
3rd Sergeant—A. Luck.  
4th Sergeant—E. Bastian.  
First Corporal—C. Schluter.  
2d Corporal—Scholtz.  
3rd Corporal—F. Blum.  
4th Corporal—Hertel.  
Bugler—Pressler.

**Privates:**

C. Benike, L. Fellman, Sussmann, Shroeder, J. Leser, Hofheintz, J. Hornberger, F. Dohme, A. Sommer, H. Bengner, B. Herzog, H. Sinnigsohn, C. Hornberger, Jurgensen, C. Pressler, P. Pressler, F. Pressler, E. Pressler, J. Schubart, A. Heusinger, E. Tillmann, F. Sterzing, C. Brinkmann, Theo. Tahtteich, P. Meier, C. Weise, J. Martin, J. Luchsinger, B. Tappe, A. Bonnet, J. Schutze, Hubzenreiter, J. L. Buaas, Killing, J. Eichel, W. Ohrndorf, J. Henniger, E. Zimmerman, J. Matter, J. Schneider, A. B. Neuman, Jean White, W. Keise, G. Boehme.

[Source:] The State Gazette, Austin, Saturday, June 22, 1861.

**MUSTER-ROLL OF CAPT. H. WILKIE'S COMP'Y OF "AUSTIN  
CITY LIGHT ARTILLERY FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1861**

Captain H. Wilkie, 1st Lieut. Rv. Beeberstein, 2nd Lieut. H. Green, 3rd Lieut. A. T. Logan, 1st Serg't. H. L. Vogt, 2nd Serg't. B. Herzog, 3rd Serg't. F. Dohme, 4th Serg't. C. Hornberger, 5th Serg't. E. Zimmerman, 1st Corpl. Wm. Cloud, 2nd Corpl. John Eickel, 3rd Corpl. H. Hertel, 4th Corpl. Jacob Leser, Bugler, E. Petzsch, Cannoneir John Kyle.

Privates—John Reynolds, Chas. Reynolds, Geo. Payne, Wm. Barnett, Otto Kuhfuss, Samuel White, A. Dieterich, F. Fahldeich, C. Schulter A. Scholoz, H. Sinnigsohn, J. M. Swisher, John Marshall, H. N. Turgenson, D. Bennett, Geo. W. Morris, W. Ohrendorf, F. Hancke, Thos. Sterzing, A. B. Neumann, G. Sussman, Anton Nelsen.

I certify that the above Company (on the reverse hereof) was organized at Austin, July 26th, 1861, under the provisions of an act, approved 15th Feb., 1858, and belongs to the Light Artillery arm of the Service, and that the same is a correct Muster-Roll.

H. Wilkie, Captain.

Sworn to and subscribed before me

this 7th day of August, A D 1861. J. T. McLaurin

C. C. C. Travis Co.

per J. Miner Deputy

Filed for record at 10 o'clock A. M. on the 7th August, A D 1861, and recorded at 4 o'clock P. M. on the same day . . .

J. T. McLaurin, Cl'k Co Court T C.

Source: Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, Book P, 215-216.



X                      X                      X

# MUSTER-ROLL OF THE "TRAVIS CONFEDERATE GUARDS,"— ORGANIZED UNDER THE ACT OF FEB. 15, 1858.

P. H. Raiford, Captain; W. L. Robards, 1st Lieut.; L. D. Carrington, 2nd Lieut.; C. S. Millett, 3rd Lieut.

1st Sergeant J. C. Darden, J. B. Hollingsworth, J. R. Sims, F. C. Collins, J. O. Illingsworth, R. T. Wheeler, Bird Holland, James Cole, J. P. Neal, A. R. Crozier, C. R. Johns, Joseph Harrell, H. W. Raglin, A. H. Cook, W. C. Pitts, W. L. Lumpkin, Wilson Randal, J. H. Hutchins, E. McLaughlin, Sam. J. Wood, S. W. Goodrich, H. McBride, A. Bahn, Abraham Jobe, Wm. Oliphant, Ernest Raven, T. D. Moseley, Edward Seiders, M. W. Townsend, A. Henricks, C. G. Keenan, B. J. Smith, Morris R. Reagan, Wm. Rust, J. M. Thomas, W. S. Hotchkiss, F. T. Duffau, O. H. Millican, M. H. Bowers, John Stringer, John Horan, G. W. Glasscock, N. C. Raymond, Wm. Priestly, Jr., P. Priestly.

I hereby certify that the above Company was organized at Austin, on the first day of August, A D 1861, and belongs to the Light Infantry arm of the service, and that the same is a correct Muster-Roll of said Company at this date.

J. C. Darden, O. Sergt.

Sworn to and signed before

me, this 26th day of Aug. A D 1861

J. T. McLaurin, C.C.C.T.C

By J. Minor Deputy &c

Filed for record at 5 o'clock P. M. this 26th day of Aug. A D 1861, and recorded at 11 A. M. on the 29th same month. J. T. McLaurin, C.C.C.T.C.

Source: Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, Book P, 227-228

X                      X                      X

# MUSTER ROLL OF "TRAVIS COUNTY MOUNTED RIFLES,"

Organized on the 6th July, 1861, Under the Provisions  
of an Act Approved Feb. 15th, 1858.

Captain James A. Thompson  
1st Lieut. Joseph Lee  
2nd Lieut. Jas. D. Doxey  
3rd Lieut. P. Nowlin  
1st Sergt. R. H. Wilkins

Private E. S. Dodd  
" E. S. Matthews  
" B. H. Thompson  
" J. H. Mulkey  
" J. M. McLean

Private Thos. J. Pitts  
" S. W. Dunstan  
" J. M. White  
" J. D. Gillam  
" Geo. N. Thompson  
" T. J. Maxwell  
" A. J. Bennet  
" J. F. Smith  
" Jeff. Burleson  
" J. C. Burleson  
" Frank Matthews  
" J. G. Galt  
" J. C. Maxwell  
" Wm. M. Dunstan  
" W. T. Barnes  
" Jos. B. Rogers  
" Otis Nairn  
" Lewis Giles  
" J. A. Alvis  
" A. J. Clark  
" B. W. Dean

" A. B. Townsend  
" Julius Lensing  
" W. L. Giles  
" Jack Tannehill  
" Frank Tannehill  
" Alex McKinzie  
" M. B. Sherman  
" J. G. Jolly  
" J. M. Reid  
" Wm. Norman  
" T. H. Land  
" John Combs  
" Jas. G. Adams  
" P. F. Muse  
" August Penner  
" Robt. Bratton  
" Batterson Barnes  
" David Scott  
" B. F. Wilkes  
" W. W. Dawson  
" P. Wright

I certify that the above Company was organized at the Little Walnut

Schoolhouse, in Travis County, and belongs to the Mounted Rifle arm of the service, and that the same is a correct Muster Roll as organized on the 6th day of July, A. D. 1861.

James A. Thompson,  
Capt. "Travis Mounted Rifles"

The within Muster Roll was signed and sworn to by Capt. James A. Thompson this 24th July, A. D. 1861.

J. T. McLaurin  
C.C.C. Travis Co.

By J. Miner, Deputy

Filed at 1 o'clock P. M. on the 24th July A. D. 1861, and recorded at 5½ o'clock P. M. on the same day.

J. T. McLaurin, C.C.C.T.C.  
Source: Deed Record of Travis County, Texas, Book P. 209-210.

X X X

### MUSTER ROLL OF CAPT. HAMMETT'S COMPANY OF MOUNTED MEN

Captain Wash Hammett

1st Lieut. D. D. Bonner

2nd Lieut. W. C. Bonner

3rd Lieut. O. H. Oldham

1st Serg't W. B. Hammett

2nd Serg't E. N. Mayfield

3rd Serg't Nimrod Taiff

4th Serg't Owen Adkins

1st Corporal Samuel Piper

2nd Corporal Donley Wilson

3rd Corporal Lacy McKinzie

4th Corporal Frank Matthews

Musician A. G. Wagoner

Privates Allen, W. D.

Baker, N. W.

Bonner, D. D.

Bonner, E. F.

Baker, W. R.

Blackwell, J. M.

Bonner, Jno. C.

Brown, E. J.

Brown, Jacob

Bancom, L. L.

Caperton, R. S.

Corwin, D.

Cummings, John

Cullen, G. W.

Cordell, J. A.

Crawford, T. H.

Demmett, Jno. H.

Dawson, N.

Dawson, S. M.

Davis, A. C.

Evans, W. W.

Eanes, R. B.

Ezell, U. D.

Ezell, C. V.

Fretwell, J.

Foster, W. K.

Fisk, J.

Glasscock, T. A.

Goodman, E.

Gillett, Jas. G.

Grumbles, J. A.

Grumbles, Perry B.

Grumbles, Wm. M.

Hatch, Thos. J.

Hammett, J. M.

Hamilton, A. J.

Hutchins, Jas. V.

Hillebrand, H.

Johnson, Charles

Jones, L. G.

Lackey, N.

Lackey, H.

Leavell, N. H.

Lynch, John

Matthews, Frank

Nolen, T. W.

Nichols, G. N.

Norton, D. S.

Pendleton, W. J.

Pogue, J. L.

Plumbley, J. T.

Piper, Wm. L.

Piper, H. P.

Roades, A. J.

Roberts, W. W.

Stanley, Geo. W.

Stanley, H. H.

Stanley, T. E.

Sneed, T. E.

Sneed, S. G.

Sutor, J.

Scott, D. J.

Sneed, W. J.

Shannon, M. B.

Scott, E. N.

Thompson, S. J.

Turner, Jas. M.

Turner, J. Martin

Wilson, David M.

Wooten, Jno. A.

Wilson, Jno. C.

Willie, F.

Zimpleman, G. B.

The State of Texas, County of Travis,

I, Wash Hammett, Captain of a uniformed Volunteer Company, the names of the privates and officers whereof appear on the reverse of this

sheet, do solemnly swear that said Company was organized in the County of Travis from citizens thereof, about the 15th day of April, A. D. 1861, as a Company of Mounted Volunteers of Cavalry, intended for State service; and farther, that the names and designation of the members, as officers and privates, on the reverse hereof, is a true and correct list of the names of all the officers and privates up to the present date; and farther, that the names and designations on the reverse hereof are those of the active resident privates and officers of said Company in full list up to this date. In testimony whereof I hereunto sign my name this the 10th day of June, 1861.

Washington Hammett, Capt. Com.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of June, A. D. 1861.  
Filed June 10th, 1861.

J. T. McLaurin, C.C.C.T.C.

Source: Deed Records of Travis County, Texas, Book P, 186-187.

X X X

## MUSTER ROLL OF THE CAPITOL GUARDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY

Captain Geo. Hancock	Hancock, J. A.
1st Lieut. Geo. H. Gray	Hudson, J. E.
2nd Lieut. Wm. Smythe	Hamilton, A. J.
3rd Lieut. Jas. W. Hancock	Johnson, Chas.
1st Serg't T. V. Coupland	Jordan, Geo. W.
2nd Serg't C. H. Fox	Johnson, R. M.
3rd Serg't M. F. Bell	Larue, J. G.
4th Serg't Geo. R. Scott	Lee, Wm.
5th Serg't Jas. W. Reid	Lee, John
1st Corporal John Buttery	Longley, A. H.
2nd Corporal Wm. R. Robinson	Lane, R. N.
3rd Corporal F. Steupy	Morrison, J. D.
4th Corporal W. M. Preece	Morrison, A.
Musician T. H. Arlett	Mauthe, R.
" Chas. Sprenger	Meyer, P. A.
" Fred Blum	Mills, G. W.
" F. Raats	Nolen, T. W.
" E. Pressler	Preece, R. L.
" J. Schuler	Phillips, W. C.
" C. Domske	Pecht, C.
" Th. Sterzing	Payne, C.
"W. D. Ezell, Sr.	Pierce, David
Privates Alexander, R. A.	Phillips, Jas.
Baker, D. W. C.	Roberts, W. W.
Bennett, D.	Reichen, F.
Boatman, C.	Robinson, W. F.
Bozeth, Wm.	Reid, S. B.
Buddington	Swisher, Ed
Boehn, Gutliebe	Staveley, B. O.
Bauers, John	Seigmond, J.
Bennett, B. C.	Sutor, Aug.
Berry, E. S.	Schaffer, C.
Bernett, F.	Swisher, J. M.
Cole, T. M.	Swenson, S. M.
Coupland	Spaulding, C.
Carr, R. D.	Thompson, J. W.
Davis, A. C.	Vance, Wm. M.
Dougherty, Jno.	Voght, H.
Davis, Andrew	Warren, T. M.
Ezell, W. D. Jr.	Wachter, B.
Ezell, C. V.	Gardner, Wm.
Hatch, Thos. J.	Graves, Jno. T.
Hemminger, Jno.	Luckett, L. H.
Hancock, Jno.	Nelson, A.
Hensinger, A.	

Geo. H. Gray, First Lieutenant of the Capitol Guards, being duly sworn says, that the foregoing is a true and correct Muster Roll of the Capitol



Guards, as organized on the 22nd day of February, A. D. 1862, under the law of 1858; that said Company was organized at the Armory thereof in the City of Austin, and belongs to the Light Infantry arm of the service, and that the foregoing list contains all the officers and men belonging to said Company subject to military duty.

Geo. H. Gray,

First Lieut., Comd'g Capitol Guards

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 24th day of February A. D. 1862.

J. Minor, C.C.C.T.C.

Filed for record at 3 o'clock P. M. on the 24th Feb., A. D. 1862, and recorded at 10 o'clock A. M. on the 25th same month.

J. Minor, C.C.C.T.C.

Source: Deed Records of Travis County, Book P, 333-334.

X X X

# MUSTER ROLL OF THE "AUSTIN CITY LIGHT INFANTRY,"

Organized April 24th, 1861, Under the Provision of an  
Act Approved February 15th, 1858

Captain Carter, B. F.	Hopkins, A. N.
1st Lieut. De Bray, H. B.	Howard, T. C.
2nd Lieut. Walsh, W. C.	Harris, R. D.
3rd Lieut. Fisher, R.	Hersog, B.
Orderly Sgt. Durham, G. J.	Jones, J. E.
1st Sergeant Jones, R. R.	Keim, C. W.
2nd Sergeant Zushlay, J. C.	Lee, J.
3rd Sergeant Thomas, W. G.	Lambert, R. J.
4th Sergeant Price, F. L.	Masely, S. E.
1st Corporal Green, J. A.	Marsh, D.
2nd Corporal Cook, A. H. Jr.	McLaurin, J. T.
3rd Corporal Burlage, J.	Murphy, W. D.
4th Corporal Winkel, H.	McAnelly, C. W.
Privates Adams, R. L.	Maynard, W. G.
Adams, F. E.	McIntire, G. W.
J. Blum	O'Gorman, P.
Brownrigg, R. T.	Price, J. T.
Boardman, G. T.	Robards, C. L.
Butts, B. H. H.	Randolph, C. H.
Charles, S. W.	Robertson, G. L.
Crozier, G. H.	Robertson, B.
Christian, E.	Rushton, C. H.
Claiborne, J. M.	Simcox, G. G.
Calhoun, W. C.	St. Clair, J. Q.
De Cowsey, J. A.	Sampson, G. W.
Doyle, M. J.	Shultz, A.
Davidson, J.	Tams, W.
Freeman, C. L.	Thornton, L. C.
Freeman, G. R.	Tannehill, W. J.
Flournoy, G.	Walker, E. D.
Girand, F. W.	West, C. S.
Giles, W. L.	Woodward, L. S.
Hamby, R. W.	Walton, W. M.
Holman, H. C.	

I certify that the above company was organized at Austin and belongs to the Light Infantry arm of the service and that the same is a correct muster roll as organized on the 24th April, 1861.

B. F. Carter, Captain, "Austin City Light Infantry"

The within Muster Roll was signed and sworn to by Capt. B. F. Carter this 25th day of April A. D. 1861.

G. Crosby, Notary Public, Travis County

The State of Texas, Travis County:-

I, James T. McLaurin, Clerk of Travis County court, do hereby certify that the foregoing Muster Roll on the reverse hereof was filed for record at 12 o'clock Mon. the 25th day of April, A. D. 1861, and duly recorded the

same day at 2 o'clock P. M. on page 142 in Book "P" of Travis County Records. In testimony whereof I hereunto set my official signature and the seal of the County Court of Travis County at office in Austin City, this 25th day of April A. D. J. McLaurin, Clerk Travis C. Court  
[Entitled] Muster Roll of the Austin City Light Infantry, 26th Brig.  
Filed for record at 12 o'clock on 25th April A. D. 1861.



## LIST OF COUNTY OFFICIALS — 1839-1900

### Commissioners Court

1839-1840—Chief Justice, James W. Smith; Commissioners, David Laughlin, S. J. Whiting, W. Y. Wood, B. F. Johnson, J. D. McLeod.

1841—Chief Justice, M. Evans, Joseph Lee; Commissioners, W. Y. Wood, N. T. Byers, W. H. Johnson, David Laughlin.

1842—Chief Justice, Joseph Lee; Commissioners, D. Laughlin, James Baker, Thos. Ward, S. J. Whatley.

1843—Chief Justice, James M. Long; D. Laughlin, James Baker, Hiram B. Hill, Jacob M. Harrell, George McCluskey.

1845—Chief Justice, James M. Long; Commissioners, J. C. Tannehill, Wm. D. Thomas, J. M. Harrell, G. B. McCluskey, Reuben Hornsby, N. M. Lockett, A. H. Cook.

1846—Chief Justice, Stephen Cummings; Commissioners, James M. Long, G. W. Davis, A. H. Cook, R. Runnels, A. M. Lockett, D. M. Harrell, Wm. Atwood, Jesse Burdett.

1847—Chief Justice, Stephen Cummings; Commissioners, D. M. Harrell, W. W. Atwood, Jesse Burdett, G. W. Davis.

1848—Chief Justice, Joel Miner; Commissioners, W. W. Atwood, G. W. Davis, Jesse Burdett, Wm. B. Burdett, John H. Matthews, James Boyce.

1849—Chief Justice, Joel Miner; Commissioners, Wm. B. Burdett, Dennis Walsh, I. V. Bennett, ..... Scott.

1850 and 1851—Chief Justice, Joel Miner; Commissioners, James Boyce, J. J. Grumbles, Wm. O'Connell, M. M. Parkerson.

1852 and 1853—Chief Justice, John B. Costa; Commissioners, Thos. F. McKinney, S. M. Swenson, Nelson Merrell, John B. Banks.

1854—Chief Justice, John B. Costa; Commissioners, Thomas F. McKinney, Nelson Merrill, S. M. Swenson, John B. Banks.

1855—Chief Justice, John B. Costa; Commissioners, Thomas F. McKinney, Nelson Merrill, S. M. Swenson, Felix E. Smith, John B. Banks.

1856—Chief Justice, John B. Costa; Commissioners, J. B. Banks, Felix E. Smith, Nelson Merrill, S. M. Swenson, Thos. F. McKinney, Johnathan Rogers, George Hancock.

1857—Chief Justice, John B. Costa; Commissioners, Nelson Merrill, George Hancock, J. P. McKinney, Johnathan Rogers.

1858—Chief Justices, John B. Costa and Geo. H. Gray; Commissioners Nelson Merrill, George Hancock, J. P. McKinney, Johnathan Edwards, G. E. Burdett, W. F. Wells.

1859—Chief Justice, George H. Gray; Commissioners, James W. Brown, Jas. P. McKinney, G. H. Burdett, W. F. Wells, J. W. Brown.

1860—Chief Justice, George H. Gray; Commissioners, G. H. Burdett, J. W. Brown, Jas. P. McKinney, F. T. Duffau, W. F. Wells, Augustus B. Slaughter, L. S. Woodward, B. F. Carter.

1861—Chief Justice, George H. Gray; Commissioners, F. T. Duffau, A. B. Slaughter, L. S. Woodward, J. W. Brown.

1862—Chief Justices, George H. Gray and Wm. H. Roberts; Commissioners, F. T. Duffau, L. S. Woodward, A. B. Slaughter, John W. Brown, A. H. Cook.

1863—Chief Justice, Wm. H. Roberts; Commissioners, F. T. Duffau, A. H. Cook, L. S. Woodward.

1864—Chief Justice, Wm. H. Roberts; Commissioners, F. T. Duffau, L. S. Woodward, A. H. Cook, ..... Potts, R. A. Rutherford, George Reissner.

1865—Chief Justices, George H. Gray and Wm. H. Roberts; Commis-

sioners, John T. Ricks; Eldridge Perry, George Reissner, C. B. Bennett, C. Spaulding, A. H. Cook.

1866—Chief Justice, James W. Smith; Commissioners, B. C. Bennett, W. F. Wells, George Reissner, J. P. Sprinkle.

1867—Chief Justice, James W. Smith; Commissioners, J. P. Sprinkle, George Reissner, W. F. Wells, Spencer Hardwell, T. W. Nolen.

1868—James W. Smith (this was when this office was termed county judge of police court); Commissioners, A. A. Horney, W. F. Wells, Spencer Hardwell, T. W. Nolen.

1869—W. D. Price (called county judge); Commissioners, A. A. Horney, T. W. Nolen, Jacob Fountain.

1870—James W. Smith (this was start of judge and commissioners being justices of the peace representing their precincts); Commissioners, F. W. Nolen, No. 4; C. Goodloe, 5; James W. Smith, 12; Z. H. Peter, 1; Thos. Anderson, 3.

1871—James W. Smith, 2; Z. H. Peters, 1; Thomas Anderson, 3; T. W. Nolen, 4; C. Goodloe, 5.

1872-73—James W. Smith, 2; Z. H. Peter, 1; Thomas Anderson, 3; T. W. Nolen, 4; C. Goodloe, 5.

1873-74 and 1875-76—James W. Smith, 2; Albert Brown, 1; James D. Costa, 3; R. S. Young, 4; C. Goodloe, 5.

1877-78—James W. Smith, Tiff Johnson, R. S. Young, J. P. Sprinkle, Thomas Andrews.

1879-80—James W. Smith, J. W. Berry, W. H. Holland, H. C. Champion, R. S. Young.

1881-82—Z. T. Fulmore, George M. Hessner, A. C. Champion, W. H. Holland, Wiley Medearis.

1883-84—Z. T. Fulmore, D. C. Pace, James A. Wright, W. H. Holland, Wiley W. Medearis.

1885-86—Z. T. Fulmore; John W. Brown, 1; Edward A. Christian, 2; Dempsey C. Pace, 3; William T. Frazor, 4.

1887-88—J. M. Brackenridge; Wm. Wellmer, 1; A. G. Kemp, 2; S. C. Granberry, 3; John W. Cloud, 4.

1889-90—J. M. Brackenridge; R. H. Hanna, 1; J. P. Schneider, 2; Frank Glasscock, 3; John W. Cloud, 4.

1891-92—Wm. von Rosenberg, Jr.; John W. Brown, 1; W. N. McElroy, 2; D. C. Pace, 3; C. A. Newning, 4.

1893-94—Wm. von Rosenberg, Jr.; John W. Brown, 1; Charles W. Thorp, 2; C. C. Pace, 3; C. A. Newning, 4.

1895-96—David A. McFall; Z. P. Jourdan, 1; G. Colvin, 2; S. F. Nolen, 3; A. L. Hughes, 4.

1897-98, 1898-99, and 1900—A. S. Walker, Jr.; Jos. B. Rogers, 1; G. Colvin, 2; S. F. Nolen, 3; A. L. Hughes, 4.



#### COUNTY CLERKS, TRAVIS COUNTY, 1839-1900

1839-1840—M. H. Beatty and B. D. Basford; 1841—; 1842—James Baker; 1843—; 1844-45—A. J. Harrell; 1846—A. J. Harrell and Ashford B. McGill; 1847-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55—Ashford B. McGill; 1856—Ashford B. McGill and James M. Swisher; 1857-58—James M. Swisher; 1859-60—Jas. T. McLaurin; 1861—Jas. T. McLaurin and Joel Miner; 1862-63—Joel Miner; 1864—Joel Miner and Aaron F. Boyce; 1865—Eldridge Perry; 1866—J. G. Wheeler and Frank Brown; 1867—J. G. Wheeler and August F. Otto; 1868-69—August F. Otto; 1870-71—A. R. Morris; 1877-94—Frank Brown; 1895-1900—John W. Hornsby.

In the 1900's, Miss Emilie Limberg has an enviable record as Texas' first woman deputy clerk in 1905, and succeeding to the office of county clerk in 1935, which she still holds.



#### CITY COUNCIL

1840—Mayor, Edwin Waller (resigned August), Thomas William Ward; Aldermen, J. W. Garrity, Jacob M. Harrell, D. M. Johnson, Nicholas McArthur; A. Savary, C. Schoolfield, Wm. W. Thompson, Samuel Whitint.



- 1841—Moses Johnson; J. M. Harrell, Nicholas McArthur, A. Savary, G. K. Teulon, W. Beatty, H. B. Hill, W. W. Thompson, ..... Beck.
- 1843—Mayors, Asa Brigham and Dr. J. W. Roberson.
- 1844—Mayor, Dr. J. W. Robertson.
- 1845—Mayor, James M. Long.
- 1846—J. M. Long; J. Cole, Frances Dietrich, J. M. Harrell, J. G. Swisher, W. W. Thompson, D. Walsh.
- 1847-48-49—Mayor, Jacob M. Harrell.
- 1850—S. J. Haynie; J. Cole, A. H. Cook, John H. Elgin, J. M. W. Hall, J. L. Holliday, Ben F. Jones
- 1851—S. G. Haynie; T. Bostick, James Cole, J. M. W. Hall, James Holliday, Chas. Mann, John M. Swisher.
- 1852—George J. Durham; J. W. Blue, James Cole, A. H. Cook, J. M. W. Hall, Harvey Smith, E. S. C. Robertson.
- 1853—Thos. M. Ward and W. P. deNormandie; A. H. Cook, Thos. Glasscock, B. Grumbles, J. M. W. Hall, A. J. Haynie, H. Sublett.
- 1854—John S. Ford; T. Bostick, L. D. Carrington, E. H. Darter, G. H. Gray, J. W. Lawrence, N. C. Raymond.
- 1855—J. T. Cleveland; W. H. Carr, J. Harrell, J. R. Jackson, A. N. Lane, M. A. Taylor, C. Wilcos.
- 1856—Edward R. Peck; John Bremond, George H. Gray, Jas. R. Jackson, A. J. Lott, M. A. Taylor, George L. Wilton.
- 1857—Thos. E. Sneed; Ben Bennett, John Bremond, B. F. Carter, P. de Cordova, Wm. M. Fowler, D. C. Freeman, Jos. Harrell, Michael Ziller.
- 1858—B. F. Carter; W. A. Hamilton, H. H. Haynie, Thos E. Sneed, E. Raven, W. A. Morris, James W. Smith, F. T. Duffau, P. de Cordova.
- 1859—B. F. Carter; F. T. Duffau, E. Raven, J. M. W. Hall, J. H. Herndon, Abner Lee, C. F. Millett, P. Priestly, N. G. Shelley.
- 1860—James W. Smith; J. T. Alexander, F. T. Duffau, Wm. Hamilton, S. G. Haynie, A. N. Hopkins, T. D. Ormsby, E. Raven, J. H. Robinson.
- 1861—James W. Smith; J. B. Costa; F. T. Duffau, Alex Eanes, Ed Finin, W. W. Goodrich, Ben Hendricks, J. H. Robinson, W. H. Sharp.
- 1862—James W. Smith; J. H. Walker, J. H. Robinson, J. Harrell, W. H. Sharp, Alex Eanes, Wm. Smyth, F. T. Duffau, S. W. Goodrich.
- 1863—S. G. Haynie; John H. Walker, C. G. Keenan, A. H. Cook, G. W. Glasscock, W. A. Hamilton, P. Priestly, Wm. Oliphant, W. von Roosenberg.
- 1864—S. G. Haynie; J. A. Flack, John Bremond, Robt. Barr, G. W. Glasscock, W. A. Hamilton, Eli Kirk, W. H. Reynolds, Wm. Simpson.
- 1865—Thos. Wm. Ward; B. O. Tong, John Bremond, Hugh Haralson, G. W. Glasscock, W. A. Hamilton, John Holland, J. R. McCall, S. W. Baker.
- 1866—W. H. Carr; Wm. von Rosenberg, J. M. W. Hall, Swante Palm, G. W. Glasscock, James Browne, August Palm, S. G. Haynie, D. F. Kinney.
- 1867—W. H. Carr; Wm. von Rosenberg, J. W. England, J. M. W. Hall, A. B. Palm, Swante Palm, Wm. Oliphant, G. S. Glasscock, Leander Brown.
- 1868-1869-1870 (by military appointment from November, 1867, to February, 1871)—Leander Brown; D. W. C. Baker, C. Domschke, L. B. Collins, J. W. England, Swante Palm, E. Raven, C. H. Fox, B. C. Bennett.
- 1871-1872 (by appointment of Governor Davis from February 1, 1871, to November 28, 1872)—John W. Glenn; J. L. Buaas, Henry Madison, E. T. Eggleston, S. Sussina, J. H. Robinson, Thomas Adams, John Bremond, E. Wheelock.
- 1873—T. B. Wheeler (elected); T. E. Sneed, A. Scholtz, E. Bremond, W. Brueggerhoff, George T. Boardman, J. H. Robinson, George Sussman, J. W. Hannig, A. H. Longley, S. Thompson.
- 1874-75—T. B. Wheeler; H. M. Metz, 1st ward; E. Bremond, 2nd; George T. Boardman, 3rd; Ed Christian, 4th; F. Dohme, 5th; S. H. Todd, 6th; A. Scholtz, 7th; Wm. Brueggerhoff, 8th; John H. Robinson, 9th; N. B. Mitchell, 10th (G. T. Boardman, Pres. Board of Aldermen).
- 1876-1877—
- 1877-1878—T. B. Wheeler; D. A. James, Eugene Bremond, A. H. Cook Jr., M. A. Taylor, F. W. Chandler, J. L. Larmoar, Otto Rost, A. Deffenbaught, John H. Rabb, F. O. Goodall.
- 1879-1880—J. C. DeGress; N. B. Metz, G. Crow, Jeremiah Sheehan, E. Raven, V. E. Vaughan, L. M. Crooker, H. M. Strong, C. F. Millet, Rad-

cliff Platt, Jos. Nalle.

1880-81—W. A. Saylor; J. W. Howard, C. D. Johns.

1881-82—L. M. Crooker; N. M. Metz, Jeremiah Sheehan, G. T. Boardman, J. J. Tobin, James Wahrenberger, H. H. Duff, Ed Huppertz, Geo. L. Robertson, R. Platt, Jos. Nalle.

1883-84—W. A. Saylor; N. B. Metz, H. B. Kinney, J. W. Lawrence, J. Schuber, H. Pfannkuche, J. W. Driskill, Ed Huppertz, J. E. Sneed, Radcliff Platt, W. G. Wilson (col.).

1885-86—J. W. Robertson; J. P. Schneider, Cal S. Metz, B. S. Pillow, Lewis Hancock, B. C. Wells, T. J. Campbell, Jos. Schuber. R. B. Underhill, Max Maas, George Warren, J. W. Driskill, I. M. Crooker, J. M. Odell, Albert Carrington, R. H. Holman, R. J. Hill, W. B. Brush, R Platt, W. M. Brennan, Wm. Ervin.

1887-89—Joseph Nalle; George P. Assman, George A. Brush, Michael Boland, ..... Caldwell, T. J. Campbell, J. C. DeGress, C. B. Fisher, J. W. Graham, ..... Haigler, F. B. Jones, H. A. Linn, C. S. Metz, J. M. Odell, B. S. Pillow, R. Platt, J. W. Phillips, J. P. Schneider, A. W. Townsend, ..... Wilson, W. B. Worham.

One alderman was elected from each ward, each year in December, for two-year terms. Records show elected aldermen each December, but not hold-over aldermen. Elected in December, 1888, for 1889-90, were: C. S. Metz, W. P. North, F. C. Morris, J. B. Lawrence, A. W. Townsend, J. W. Graham, J. B. Nitschke, A. H. Newton, R. Platt, F. R. Jones, W. Ziller.

Elected in December, 1889, for 1890-91, were: John McDonald, mayor; J. P. Schneider, C. B. Anderson, Fred Carleton, Joe Schuber, H. A. Linn, J. L. Hume, G. P. Assman, J. W. Phillips, Michael Boland, J. A. Jackson. Hold-overs shown as completing the council were: Graham, Jones, Metz, Morris, Newton, Netschke, Platt, Townsend, North, Ziller.

Elected as aldermen in December, 1890, for 1891-92, were: W. J. Sutor, W. P. North, F. C. Morris, W. Ziller, A. W. Townsend, J. W. Graham, J. B. Nitschke, A. H. Newton, R. Platt, W. A. Glass.

Elected in June, 1891, for 1891-92: Robert Meyerman, H. J. Ketchum.

Elected in December, 1891, for 1892-93: John McDonald; J. P. Schneider, C. B. Anderson, W. D. Shelley, Joe Schuber, H. A. Linn, J. L. Hume, George P. Assman, J. H. Assman, J. H. Warmoth, K. C. Miller, J. A. Jackson.

Elected December, 1892, for 1893-94: P. W. Powell, W. P. North, Francis Fischer, Thos. F. Taylor, A. W. Townsend, Chas. P. Raymond, J. B. Nitschke, R. Platt, H. B. Hancock, W. A. Glass.

Elected December, 1893, for 1894-95: John McDonald; J. P. Schneider, C. B. Anderson, W. D. Shelley, R. C. Roberdeau, H. A. Linn, J. L. Hume, Geo. P. Assman, J. H. Warmoth, P. J. Lawless, J. A. Jackson, W. C. Redd.

Elected December, 1894, for 1895-96: P. W. Powell, A. C. Goeth, Francis Fischer, Thos. F. Taylor, A. W. Townsend, W. H. Tobin, J. B. Nitschke, Harv L. Haynes, R. Platt, W. A. Glass. (In a tie vote in the Eleventh Ward, L. H. Glasscock and R. Meyerman were in a second election, with Glasscock winning.)

Elected December, 1895, for 1896-97: Lewis Hancock; J. P. Schneider, F. M. Beaty, W. D. Shelley, R. C. Roberdeau, H. A. Linn, Jooseph Stumpf, C. Q. Horton, Ed Rosengren, J. P. Lawless, A. J. Zilker, W. C. Redd.

Elected December, 1896, for 1897-98: P. W. Powell, F. M. Maddox, Francis Fischer, Thos. F. Taylor, A. W. Townsend, A. M. Belvin, J. B. Nitschke, H. L. Haynes, R. Platt, Jos. Kuhn, W. D. Miller.

Elected December, 1897, for 1898-99: John McDonald; Melton Morris, F. M. Beaty, W. D. Shelley, R. C. Roberdeau, L. M. Crooker, Joseph Stumpf, C. Q. Horton, Ed Rosengren, Jeff McLemore, A. J. Zilker, W. C. Redd.

Elected December, 1898, for 1899-1900: P. W. Powell, F. M. Maddox, Francis Fischer, M. B. Croos, R. C. Walker, James Brady, A. M. Belvin, J. B. Nitschke, H. L. Haynes, August Fehr, Jos. T. Kuhn, W. D. Miller Jr., F. M. Maddox.

Elected April 3, 1899, and installed that month for two years: John D. McCall; H. C. Nolen, Milton Morris, Francis Fischer, Joseph Stumpf, W. B. Dunham, P. D. Mortimer, W. A. Glass.

# References

## CHAPTER I

<sup>1</sup>Eugene C. Barker (ed.), *The Austin Papers* (Vols. I and II, Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Years 1919 and 1922, Washington, 1924, 1928; Vol. III, University of Texas Press, Austin, 1926), II, 1697.

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 223.

<sup>3</sup>Frank Brown, *Annals of Travis County and of the City of Austin* (From the Earliest Times to the Close of 1875) (35 vols.; typescript, Archives Division, Texas State Library), IV, 16.

<sup>4</sup>Charles A. Gulick and others (eds.), *The Papers of Mirabeau Buonoparte Lamar* (6 vols; Austin: Texas State Library, 1921-1928), IV, 39.

<sup>5</sup>Texas Historical Records Survey, Works Projects Administration, *Inventory of the County Archives of Texas, No. 11, Bastrop County* (San Antonio: The Texas Historical Records Survey, 1941), 15.

<sup>6</sup>Noah Smithwick, *Evolution of a State* (Austin: Gammel Book Company, 1900), 235.

<sup>7</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, IV, 13.

<sup>8</sup>C. Stanley Banks, "The Mormon Migration into Texas," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XLIV, No. 2 (October, 1945), 233-244.

<sup>9</sup>Smithwick, *Evolution of a State*, 154, contains drawing of Fort Coleman.

<sup>10</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, IV, 49.

<sup>11</sup>H. P. N. Gammel, *The Laws of Texas* (10 vols.; Austin: Gammel Book Company, 1898), I, 600, 924.

<sup>14</sup>Smithwick, *Evolution of a State*, 167.

<sup>13</sup>With the help of neighbors like Mrs. Pauline Reissig, Mrs. Ruby Meschke, and Miss Susannah Moehr, it was located.

<sup>14</sup>Smithwick, *Evolution of a State*, 167.

<sup>15</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, III, 29-30.

<sup>16</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 48; E. W. Winkler, "The Seat of Government in Texas," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, X, No. 3 (January, 1907), 203.

<sup>17</sup>There is proof in the General Land Office files that Wm. Cannon had a grant of land in Travis County. A map of Travis County compiled from documents in the General Land Office by W. Von Rosenberg, assistant draftsman, May 15, 1861, shows Wm. Cannon's grant dated March 29, 1835, across the river south of Congress Avenue. It is probable that his trading post was at the mouth of Barton Creek, instead of Onion Creek, since the Comanche trail crossed the river at the shoals nearby.

<sup>18</sup>Papers in possession of Mrs. Mary Eby, Austin, Texas.

<sup>19</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, II, 92.

<sup>20</sup>Philip Graham, *The Life and Poems of Mirabeau B. Lamar* (Chappell Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1938), 172.

<sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*, 11.

<sup>22</sup>*Ibid.*, 19.

<sup>23</sup>*Ibid.*, 22.

<sup>24</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>25</sup>*Ibid.*, 38.

<sup>26</sup>*Ibid.*, 55.

<sup>27</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, X, 3.

<sup>28</sup>Graham, *Life and Poems of Mirabeau B. Lamar*, 55.

<sup>29</sup>*Ibid.*, 67.

<sup>30</sup>Alex W. Terrell, "The City of Austin from 1839 to 1865," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, XIV, No. 2 (October, 1910), 113.

<sup>31</sup>Clarence R. Wharton, *History of Texas* (Dallas: Turner Company, 1935), 133.

<sup>32</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 87.

<sup>33</sup>D. W. C. Baker, *A Texas Scrapbook* (New York: A. S. Barnes and Company, 1874), 289.



<sup>34</sup>Austin American-Statesman, June 5, 1948.

<sup>35</sup>Ibid., October 18, 1953.

<sup>36</sup>Texas Siftings (Austin), September 17, 1881.

## CHAPTER II

<sup>1</sup>United States Geological Survey, Map of Texas: Austin Quadrangle (Washington, D. C.: United States Department of Interior, 1896).

<sup>2</sup>Ibid.

<sup>3</sup>Texas Memorial Museum, Texas Through 250,000,000 Years (Austin: Texas Memorial Museum, September, 1945).

<sup>4</sup>Frederic William Simonds, The Geography of Texas (New York: Ginn and Company, 1905), 11, 20.

<sup>5</sup>John M. Niles, South America and Mexico With a Complete View of Texas (2 vols.; Hartford, Connecticut: H. Huntington, Jr., 1838), I, 224-225.

<sup>6</sup>Amelia E. Barr, All the Days of My Life: An Autobiography, the Red Leaves of a Human Heart (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1913), 190-191.

<sup>7</sup>Gulick (ed.), Lamar Papers, III, 159-183.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid., II, 530.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid.

<sup>10</sup>Seat of Government Papers (Archives Division, Texas State Library).

<sup>11</sup>H. F. McDaniel and N. A. Taylor, The Coming Empire; or, Two Thousand Miles in Texas on Horseback (New York: A. S. Barnes and Company, 1877), 362, 387.

<sup>12</sup>Brown, Annals of Travis County, XII, 6.

<sup>13</sup>American-Statesman (Austin), March 26, 1939.

<sup>14</sup>William Kennedy, Texas: The Rise, Progress, & Prospects of the Republic of Texas (2 vols.; London: R. Hastings, 1841), I, 73.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., 75.

<sup>17</sup>W. W. Newcomb, The Indians of Texas From Prehistoric to Modern Times (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1961), 85-221.

<sup>18</sup>John Henry Brown, Indian Wars and Pioneers of Texas (Austin: L. E. Daniell, 1891-1892), 78-82.

<sup>19</sup>J. W. Wilbarger, Indian Depredations in Texas (Austin: Hutchings Printing House, 1889), 226.

<sup>20</sup>Ibid., 146-150.

<sup>21</sup>Texas Sentinel (Austin), January 30, 1841.

<sup>22</sup>Brown, Annals of Travis County, VIII, 34.

<sup>23</sup>Ibid., August 26, 1841.

<sup>24</sup>Texas Centinel, August 5, 1841.

<sup>25</sup>Wilbarger, Indian Depredations, 141-142.

<sup>26</sup>City Gazette (Austin) March 2, 1842.

<sup>27</sup>Brown, Annals of Travis County, IX, 33-34.

<sup>28</sup>Wilbarger, Indian Depredations, 142-144.

<sup>29</sup>Noah Smithwick, Evolution of a State, 281.

<sup>30</sup>P. E. Peareson, "Reminiscences of Judge Edwin Waller," Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association, IV, No. 1 (July, 1900), 47; Brown, Annals of Travis County, VI, 19.

## CHAPTER III

<sup>1</sup>Gulick (ed.), Lamar Papers, II, 44.

<sup>2</sup>Peareson, "Reminiscences of Judge Edwin Waller," Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association, IV, No. 1 (July, 1900), 46.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid., 47.

<sup>4</sup>Gulick (ed.), Lamar Papers, II, 588.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid., III, 5.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., 11.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., 18.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid., 40.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., 43.

<sup>10</sup>Brown, Annals of Travis County, VI, 25.

<sup>11</sup>A. W. Terrell, "The City of Austin from 1839 to 1865," Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association, XIV, No. 2 (October, 1910), 119.

- <sup>12</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, III, 60.  
<sup>13</sup>*Ibid.*  
<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*, 74-76.  
<sup>15</sup>*Ibid.*, 111, 91.  
<sup>16</sup>*Ibid.*, 123.  
<sup>17</sup>William Preston Johnston, *The Life of General Albert Sidney Johnston, Embracing His Services in the Armies of the United States, the Republic of Texas, and the Confederate States* (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1878), 114.  
<sup>18</sup>Alex W. Terrell, "The City of Austin from 1839 to 1865," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, XIV, No. 2 (October, 1910), 117.  
<sup>19</sup>Graham, *The Life and Poems of Mirabeau B. Lamar*, 56.  
<sup>20</sup>Julia Lee Sinks, *Early Days in Texas* (typescript, Austin Public Library), 3.  
<sup>21</sup>These locations are listed in Letter Book #1, Department of State, November 12, 1836-January 10, 1842 (Archives Division, Texas State Library).  
<sup>22</sup>Sinks, *Early Days in Texas*, 3.  
<sup>23</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, VI, 84.  
<sup>24</sup>Sinks, *Early Days in Texas*, II, 3. Julia Lee Sinks, who wrote of early Austin, came to Austin in 1840, and was married to George W. Sinks, who was with the post office.  
<sup>25</sup>Johnston, *The Life of General Albert Sidney Johnston*, 114.

#### CHAPTER IV

- <sup>1</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, III, 139, 204.  
<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, III, 154.  
<sup>3</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, VI, 84.  
<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*  
<sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*, 84; Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, III, 184.  
<sup>6</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 386.  
<sup>7</sup>Tenth Census of the United States, 1880 (microfilm, Returns of Travis County), p. 88; *American-Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939.  
<sup>8</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 428; Harriet Smither (ed.), *Journals of the Fourth Congress of the Republic of Texas, 1839-1840* (3 vols.; Austin: Texas State Library, 1929), I, 237, 256, 263.  
<sup>9</sup>Gambrell, *Anson Jones*, 187.  
<sup>10</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. A (Mss. in Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).  
<sup>11</sup>Judge B. H. Gray, "Outline History of Austin," *Austin City Directory, 1872-73* (Austin: S. A. Gray, 1872), 5-16.  
<sup>12</sup>William R. Hogan, *The Texas Republic: A Social and Economic History* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1946), 88.  
<sup>13</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin) September 2, 1840. Mr. Bullock's pigs were eating the corn in de Saligny's garden.  
<sup>14</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, December 16, 1840.  
<sup>15</sup>John Nathan Craven, *James Harper Starr: Financier of the Republic of Texas* (Austin: Daughters of the Republic of Texas, 1950), 62-63.  
<sup>16</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, January 20, 1841.  
<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, January 27, 1841.  
<sup>18</sup>*Texas Centinel* (Austin), January 30, 1841.  
<sup>19</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, March 31, 1841.  
<sup>20</sup>*Ibid.*, July 7, 1841.  
<sup>21</sup>H. Bailey Carroll, *The Texan Santa Fe Trail* (Canyon: Panhandle Plains Historical Society, 1951), 1-16.  
<sup>22</sup>*Texas Centinel* (Austin), August 26, 1841.  
<sup>23</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, December 1, 1841.  
<sup>24</sup>*Ibid.*, December 29, 1841.  
<sup>25</sup>*Texas Centinel* (Austin), November 11, 1841.  
<sup>26</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, March 17, 1841.  
<sup>27</sup>Baker, *A Texas Scrap Book*, 122.  
<sup>28</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, IV, 5.  
<sup>29</sup>Dudley G. Wooten, *A Complete History of Texas* (Dallas: The Texas History Company, 1899), 283.

- <sup>30</sup>*American-Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939.  
<sup>31</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, IV, 20.  
<sup>32</sup>W. Eugene Hollon and Ruth Lapham Butler (eds.), *William Bollaert's Texas* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press), 192.  
<sup>33</sup>*Ibid.*, 193; Walter P. Webb and H. Bailey Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas* (2 vols.; Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1952), II, 869.  
<sup>34</sup>Hollon and Butler (eds.), *William Bollaert's Texas*, 193.  
<sup>35</sup>*Ibid.*, 194.  
<sup>36</sup>*Ibid.*, 196.  
<sup>37</sup>*Ibid.*, 198.  
<sup>38</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, X, 56-57.  
<sup>39</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 1124-1125.

#### CHAPTER V

- <sup>1</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 710; *American-Statesman* (Austin) Magazine, October 11, 1925.  
<sup>2</sup>Interview with Walter Bremond, Sr., Austin, May 16, 1948.  
<sup>3</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), January 12, 1848.  
<sup>4</sup>Clarence R. Wharton, *Texas Under Many Flags* (5 vols.; Chicago: The American Historical Society, 1930), II, 60.  
<sup>5</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, I, 93; Elizabeth L. Jennett (comp.), *Biographical Directory of the Texan Conventions and Congresses, 1832-1845* (Austin [n.p.], 1941), 47.  
<sup>6</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), July 31, 1875.  
<sup>7</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XV, 5-6.  
<sup>8</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), July 31, 1875.  
<sup>9</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), December 7, 1850.  
<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, December 21, 1850.  
<sup>11</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), April 19, 1851.  
<sup>12</sup>*Ibid.*, October 11, 1851.  
<sup>13</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XV, 6.  
<sup>14</sup>Terrell, "The City of Austin from 1839 to 1865," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, XIV, No. 2 (October, 1910), 122.  
<sup>15</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XVI, 6.  
<sup>16</sup>*Texas State Times* (Austin), December 23, 1854.  
<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, October 7, 1854.  
<sup>18</sup>*Ibid.*  
<sup>19</sup>*Ibid.*, August 25, 1855.  
<sup>20</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), May 13, 1854.  
<sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*, March 3, 1855.  
<sup>22</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XII, 22.  
<sup>23</sup>*Texas State Times* (Austin), May 5, 1855.  
<sup>24</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), October 20, 1855.  
<sup>25</sup>*Ibid.*, June 9, 1855.  
<sup>26</sup>*Ibid.*, August 18, 1855.  
<sup>27</sup>*Ibid.*, November 3, 1855.  
<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*, October 13, 1855.  
<sup>29</sup>*Texas State Times* (Austin), November 17, 1855.  
<sup>30</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), August 30, 1856.  
<sup>31</sup>*Ibid.*, September 6, 1856.  
<sup>32</sup>*Texas State Times* (Austin), June 7, 1856.  
<sup>33</sup>Catherine Young, *The History of the Texas State Library* (Masters thesis, University of Texas, 1932), 8-20.  
<sup>34</sup>*American-Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939; *Texas State Gazette* (Austin), December 13, 1856.  
<sup>35</sup>*Southern Intelligencer* (Austin), December 10, 1856.  
<sup>36</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), April 25, 1857.  
<sup>37</sup>*Southern Intelligencer* (Austin), August 25, 1858.  
<sup>38</sup>*American-Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939.  
<sup>39</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 410.  
<sup>40</sup>Basic Data about Austin and Travis County, Department of Planning, Austin, Texas, December 30, 1955.  
<sup>41</sup>*Ibid.*  
<sup>42</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), June 30, 1860.



<sup>43</sup>*Southern Intelligencer* (Austin), September 5, 1860.

<sup>44</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 443.

<sup>45</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), November 19, 1859.

#### CHAPTER VI

<sup>1</sup>The *Texas News*, IV, No. 7 (August 15, 1860), 95.

<sup>2</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), August 25, September 1, 1860.

<sup>3</sup>*Southern Intelligencer* (Austin), July 18, 1860.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*, September 5, 1860.

<sup>5</sup>Barr, *All the Days of My Life*, 222.

<sup>6</sup>*American-Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939.

<sup>7</sup>Wilbarger, *Indian Depredations*, 341.

<sup>8</sup>Perle Perkins Harper, *1,000 Facts and 100 Appreciations of Austin on Her 100th Birthday* (Austin: Firm Foundation, 1939), 38.

<sup>9</sup>Interview with Gus Johnson, who helped his father move Sam Houston. This interview for material in story, "His Father Helped Sam Houston," in the *Houston Chronicle Sunday Magazine*, in 1949.

<sup>10</sup>Amelia Barr letter, February 16, 1861 (Ms., University of Texas Archives, Austin).

<sup>11</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), March 23, 1861.

<sup>12</sup>*Ibid.*, July 13, 1861.

<sup>13</sup>E. T. Miller, "State Finances of Texas During the Civil War," *Quarterly of the Texas Historical Association*, XIV, 1 (July, 1910), 5; Francis R. Lubbock (C. W. Raines, ed.), *Six Decades in Texas; or Memoirs of Francis Richard Lubbock, Governor of Texas in War Time, 1861-63* (Austin: B. C. Jones, 1900), 368-369.

<sup>14</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), June 15, 1861.

<sup>15</sup>*Ibid.*; Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXI, 61.

<sup>16</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), May 4, 1861.

<sup>17</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXI, 61.

<sup>18</sup>Terrell, "The City of Austin from 1839-1865," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, XIV, No. 2 (October, 1910), 120.

<sup>19</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), April 20, 1861.

<sup>20</sup>*Ibid.*, January 26, 1861; Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, I, 88.

<sup>21</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 665.

<sup>22</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), October 5, 1861.

<sup>23</sup>*Ibid.*, November 9, 1861.

<sup>24</sup>E. T. Miller, "State Finances of Texas During the Civil War," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, XIV, No. 1 (July, 1910), 7.

<sup>25</sup>Article by Val C. Giles, *Austin Daily Statesman*, April 29, 1900; James M. Day (ed.), *Senate Journal of the Ninth Legislature of the State of Texas, First Called Session, February 2, 1863-March 7, 1863* (Austin: Texas State Library, 1963), 51.

<sup>26</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. B, Book 4 (Mss., Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).

<sup>27</sup>Some issues of these are located in the Texas State Archives and the Newspaper Collection, University of Texas.

<sup>28</sup>Amelia W. Williams and Eugene C. Barker (eds.), *The Writings of Sam Houston, 1813-1863* (8 vols.; Austin: University of Texas Press, 1943), VII, 328.

<sup>29</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXIII, 14.

<sup>30</sup>Swante Palm letters, I, 18 (typescript, University of Texas Archives, Austin).

<sup>31</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXIII, 55-56.

<sup>32</sup>*Weekly State Gazette* (Austin), May 11, 1864.

<sup>33</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXIII, 57.

<sup>34</sup>*Weekly State Gazette* (Austin), August 3, 1864.

<sup>35</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), July 25, 1865.

<sup>36</sup>Joseph H. Toulouse, *Pioneer Posts of Texas* (San Antonio: Naylor, 1936), 16.

<sup>37</sup>*Ibid.*; T. B. Wheeler, "Reminiscences of Reconstruction in Texas," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, XI, No. 1 (July, 1907), 56.

<sup>38</sup>*Evening Star* (Houston), May 1, 1866; "Texas Collection," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XLV, No. 2 (October, 1941), 197-198.

<sup>39</sup>Harry Hansen (Ed.), *The World Almanac and Book of Facts for 1952* (New York: New York World Telegram, 1952), 122.

<sup>40</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 699.

<sup>41</sup>*Austin Daily Republican*, April 1, 1869.

<sup>42</sup>*Ibid.*, December 10, 1869.

<sup>43</sup>*Tri-Weekly State Gazette* (Austin), December 1, 1869.

<sup>44</sup>Stuart McGregor (ed.), *Texas Almanac, 1956-1957: The Encyclopedia of Texas* (Dallas: A. H. Belo Corporation, 1955), 66.

#### CHAPTER VII

<sup>1</sup>*State Journal* (Austin), July 2, 1870.

<sup>2</sup>*Austin Daily Republican* (Austin), May 11, 1870.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid.*, September 8, 1870.

<sup>4</sup>*Tri-Weekly Gazette* (Austin), October 21, 1870.

<sup>5</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXIX, 23.

<sup>6</sup>*Tri-Weekly State Gazette* (Austin), August 4, 1871.

<sup>7</sup>*Daily State Journal* (Austin), July 13, 1871.

<sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*, July 21, 1871.

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, December 23, 1871.

<sup>10</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXX, 33.

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid.*, XXX, 22.

<sup>12</sup>*Ibid.*, XXX, 27.

<sup>13</sup>*Statesman* (Austin), December 10, 1871.

<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*, December 12, 1871; *Daily State Journal* (Austin), August 11, 1871.

<sup>15</sup>*Daily State Journal* (Austin), May 13, 1871.

<sup>16</sup>*Ibid.*, October 18, 1871.

<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, March 25, 1872.

<sup>18</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXXI, 10.

<sup>20</sup>*Daily State Journal* (Austin), December 11, 1873.

<sup>21</sup>Lubbock, *Six Decades in Texas*, 607-609.

<sup>22</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXXIII, 32.

<sup>23</sup>*Ibid.*, 82.

<sup>24</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), December 4, 1875.

<sup>25</sup>*Ibid.*, October 2, 1875.

<sup>26</sup>*Ibid.*, October 24, 1875.

<sup>27</sup>*Ibid.*, August 19, 1875.

<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*, November 24, 1875.

<sup>29</sup>*Ibid.*, August 3, 1875.

<sup>30</sup>*Ibid.*, June 11, 1875.

<sup>31</sup>*Ibid.*, July 3, 1875.

<sup>32</sup>*Ibid.*, October 28, 1875.

<sup>33</sup>*Ibid.*, December 16 and 17, 1875.

<sup>34</sup>Fair Program, 1876 (Barker History Center Library, University of Texas).

<sup>35</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), July 13, 1876.

<sup>36</sup>City and County Papers (Austin and Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library).

<sup>37</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), June 19, 1877.

<sup>38</sup>*Ibid.*, July 4, 1877.

<sup>39</sup>McDaniel and Taylor, *The Coming Empire*, 50.

<sup>40</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), January 1, 1878.

<sup>41</sup>City and County Papers (Austin and Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library).

<sup>42</sup>Tenth Census of the United States, 1880 (microfilm, Returns of Travis County), p. 96.

<sup>43</sup>*Ibid.*, 90.

<sup>44</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>45</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), March 21, 1879.

<sup>46</sup>Tenth Census of the United States, 1880 (microfilm, Returns of Travis County), 87.

<sup>47</sup>*Texas Siftings* (Austin), November 12, 1881.

- <sup>48</sup>Fair Program, 1882 (Barker History Center Library, University of Texas).
- <sup>49</sup>*Ibid.*
- <sup>50</sup>Austin Statesman, March 9, 1882.
- <sup>51</sup>Texas Siftings (Austin), October 21, 1882.
- <sup>52</sup>Austin Statesman, February 2, 1882.
- <sup>53</sup>J. Evetts Haley, George W. Littlefield, Texan (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1943), 200.
- <sup>54</sup>Austin Statesman, May 1, 1883.
- <sup>55</sup>Austin Daily Statesman, March 11, 1883.
- <sup>56</sup>*Ibid.*, May 30, 1883.
- <sup>57</sup>Austin Statesman, February 16, 1884.
- <sup>58</sup>*Ibid.*, May 9, 1884.
- <sup>59</sup>Austin Democratic Statesman, September 20, 1884.
- <sup>60</sup>Austin Statesman, October 31, 1886.
- <sup>61</sup>*Ibid.*, December 17, 1886.
- <sup>62</sup>*Ibid.*, January 27, 1886.
- <sup>63</sup>*Ibid.*, April 15, 1886.
- <sup>64</sup>*Ibid.*, February 21, 1886.
- <sup>65</sup>*Ibid.*, March 23, 1886.
- <sup>66</sup>*Ibid.*, August 15, 1886.
- <sup>67</sup>*Ibid.*, September 5, 1886.
- <sup>68</sup>*Ibid.*, December 19, 1886.
- <sup>69</sup>*Ibid.*, March 27, 1886.
- <sup>70</sup>*Ibid.*, October 15, 1886.
- <sup>71</sup>*Ibid.*, June 6, 1886.
- <sup>72</sup>*Ibid.*, October 7, 1886.
- <sup>73</sup>*Ibid.*, February 17, 1887.
- <sup>74</sup>*Ibid.*, February 27, 1887.
- <sup>75</sup>*Ibid.*, September 28, 1887.
- <sup>76</sup>*Ibid.*, September 3, 1889.
- <sup>77</sup>*Ibid.*, January 12, 1888.
- <sup>78</sup>*Ibid.*, October 24, 1889.
- <sup>79</sup>*Ibid.*, June 15, 1889.
- <sup>80</sup>Austin Board of Trade, Industrial Advantages of Austin, Texas, or, Austin Up to Date (Austin: Austin Board of Trade, 1894).
- <sup>81</sup>Austin Statesman, August 13, 1890.
- <sup>82</sup>*Ibid.*, December 12, 1890.
- <sup>83</sup>Haley, George W. Littlefield, 200.
- <sup>84</sup>Austin National Bank, Fifty Years of Friendly Service (Austin: Austin National Bank, 1940).
- <sup>85</sup>Austin Statesman, October 16, 1890.
- <sup>86</sup>*Ibid.*, September 22, 1891.
- <sup>87</sup>*Ibid.*, October 20, 1891.
- <sup>88</sup>*Ibid.*, July 17, 1891.
- <sup>89</sup>*Ibid.*, July 19, 1891.
- <sup>90</sup>*Ibid.*, August 14, 1891.
- <sup>91</sup>*Ibid.*, December 2, 1892.
- <sup>92</sup>*Ibid.*, January 18, 1892.
- <sup>93</sup>*Ibid.*, December 6, 1892.
- <sup>94</sup>Austin Evening News, December 7, 1893.
- <sup>95</sup>Austin Statesman, February 18, 1893.
- <sup>96</sup>*Ibid.*, August 12, 1893.
- <sup>97</sup>*Ibid.*, October 1, 1893.
- <sup>98</sup>*Ibid.*, October 28, 1893.
- <sup>99</sup>*Ibid.*, December 7, 1893.
- <sup>100</sup>*Ibid.*, March 26, 1893.
- <sup>101</sup>*Ibid.*, December 16, 1893.
- <sup>102</sup>Austin Evening News, September 6, 1893.
- <sup>103</sup>*Ibid.*, March 20, 1894.
- <sup>104</sup>Austin Statesman, July 21, 1894.
- <sup>105</sup>*Ibid.*, November 22, 1895.
- <sup>106</sup>*Ibid.*, December 6, 1895.



- <sup>107</sup>*Ibid.*, August 12, 1895.
- <sup>108</sup>*Ibid.*, March 24, 1895.
- <sup>109</sup>*Ibid.*, March 21, 1895.
- <sup>110</sup>*Ibid.*, July 14, 1895.
- <sup>111</sup>*Ibid.*, April 27-28, 1898.
- <sup>112</sup>Austin Tribune, September 10, 1898.
- <sup>113</sup>*Ibid.*, September 15, 1898.
- <sup>114</sup>*Ibid.*, May 31, 1899.
- <sup>115</sup>*Ibid.*, June 13, 1899.
- <sup>116</sup>*Ibid.*, August 14, 1899.
- <sup>117</sup>*Ibid.*, November 13, 1899.
- <sup>118</sup>*Ibid.*, September 8, 1899.
- <sup>119</sup>Texas State Democrat (Austin), September 16, 1899.
- <sup>120</sup>Austin Tribune, February 21, 1899.
- <sup>121</sup>Austin Statesman, March 26, 1939.

## CHAPTER VIII

- <sup>1</sup>Austin Board of Trade, Austin Up to Date, 42.
- <sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, 44.
- <sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, 86.
- <sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*, 86.
- <sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*, 56.
- <sup>6</sup>*Ibid.*, 58.
- <sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*, 85.
- <sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*, 53.
- <sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, 85.
- <sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, 71.
- <sup>11</sup>*Ibid.*, 72.
- <sup>12</sup>*Ibid.*, 56.
- <sup>13</sup>*Ibid.*, 84.
- <sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*, 66.
- <sup>15</sup>*Ibid.*, 87.

## CHAPTER IX

- <sup>1</sup>Hogan, *The Texas Republic*,
- <sup>2</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XV, 26.
- <sup>3</sup>Since records in the county superintendent's office were not complete for the early years, it is difficult to trace the first county schools.
- <sup>4</sup>M. E. Moody, "Graphic Stories of Pioneer Days," *Austin Statesman*, August 12, 1931.
- <sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*
- <sup>6</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, November 27, 1839.
- <sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*, January 8, 1840.
- <sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*, January 15, 1840.
- <sup>9</sup>Homer S. Thrall, *A Brief History of Methodists in Texas* (Nashville: Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South, 1889), 100.
- <sup>10</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), August 26, 1846; Irby B. Carruth (comp.), "73 Vital Years," *Public Education in Austin, 1881-1954* (Austin: Centennial Committee on Instruction and Research, Austin Public Schools, 1954), 10.
- <sup>11</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), December 28, 1847); Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 10.
- <sup>12</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), August 16, 1848; Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 10.
- <sup>13</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), August 16, 1848.
- <sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*, November 5, 1848.
- <sup>15</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), December 14, 1849.
- <sup>16</sup>*Ibid.*, July 6, 1851.
- <sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, October 27, 1853.
- <sup>18</sup>*Ibid.*, August 31, 1850.
- <sup>19</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, I, 87.
- <sup>20</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), April 17, 1852.
- <sup>21</sup>Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 10.
- <sup>22</sup>*Texas State Gazette* (Austin), November 22, 1851.

- <sup>23</sup>Tri-Weekly State Times (Austin), November 14, 1853.
- <sup>24</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, I, 87; Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 10.
- <sup>25</sup>Texas State Gazette (Austin), December 25, 1862.
- <sup>26</sup>Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 10-11; Willie M. Young, *Education in Austin Before the Public Schools* (Masters thesis, University of Texas, 1952), 54.
- <sup>27</sup>Tri-Weekly State Times, (Austin), November 14, 1853.
- <sup>28</sup>Frederick Eby, *Education in Texas; Source Materials* (Austin: University of Texas, 1921), 264-270.
- <sup>29</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. B, Book I (Mss. in Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).
- <sup>30</sup>Texas State Times (Austin), July 19, 1856.
- <sup>31</sup>Texas State Gazette (Austin), September 17, 1859.
- <sup>32</sup>State Gazette (Austin), October 3, 1861.
- <sup>33</sup>Southern Intelligencer (Austin), May 13, 1857.
- <sup>34</sup>Texas State Gazette (Austin), October 14, 1858.
- <sup>35</sup>Southern Intelligencer (Austin), September 5, 1860.
- <sup>36</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. B., Book 2 (Mss. in Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).
- <sup>37</sup>Texas State Times (Austin), February 17, 1855.
- <sup>38</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XV, 24.
- <sup>39</sup>Weekly State Gazette (Austin), January 11, 1865.
- <sup>40</sup>Long, *Education in Austin Before the Public Schools*, 64.
- <sup>41</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. B, Book 2 (Mss. in Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).
- <sup>42</sup>This building was located at East Avenue and 19th Street, which site has known army camps of World War I and the University of Texas Extension Offices.
- <sup>43</sup>Texas Sentinel (Austin), August 1, 1857.
- <sup>44</sup>Ibid., February 6, 1858.
- <sup>45</sup>Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 11; Long, *Education in Austin Before the Public Schools*, 79-80.
- <sup>46</sup>Frederick Eby, *The Development of Education in Texas* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1925), 131; Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 358-359.
- <sup>47</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. B, Book 2 (Mss. in Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).
- <sup>48</sup>Ibid., Book 3.
- <sup>49</sup>Texas State Gazette (Austin), April 27, 1861.
- <sup>50</sup>Ibid., November 10, 1860.
- <sup>51</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. C, Book 1 (Mss. in Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).
- <sup>52</sup>Texas Siftings (Austin), July 2, 1881.
- <sup>53</sup>Texas State Gazette (Austin), May 11, 1867.
- <sup>54</sup>Tri-Weekly Austin Republican, November 5, 1867.
- <sup>55</sup>Tri-Weekly State Gazette (Austin), January 20, 1868.
- <sup>56</sup>J. C. De Gress, *Second Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Texas, For the Year 1872* (Austin: James P. Newcomb and Company, 1873), 104.
- <sup>57</sup>Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 14.
- <sup>58</sup>Mary Starr Barkley, *One Hundred Years* (Austin: Best Printing Company, 1952).
- <sup>59</sup>Austin Statesman, July 22, 1886.
- <sup>60</sup>Tri-Weekly State Gazette (Austin), March 23, 1870.
- <sup>61</sup>Daily Austin Republican, February 1, 1870.
- <sup>62</sup>Eby, *Development of Education in Texas*, 157-159.
- <sup>63</sup>J. C. De Gress, *First Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Texas, 1871* (Austin: J. G. Tracy, 1872), 73.
- <sup>64</sup>Daily State Journal (Austin), August 30, 1871.
- <sup>65</sup>Ibid., September 12, 1871.
- <sup>66</sup>Daily Democrat Statesman (Austin), September 13, 1873.
- <sup>67</sup>Ibid., August 12, 1875.
- <sup>68</sup>Annual Catalog, Austin Collegiate Female Institute, 1875.
- <sup>69</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), November 23, 1875.

- <sup>70</sup>*Ibid.*, August 23, 1876.  
<sup>71</sup>*Ibid.*, August 6, 1876.  
<sup>72</sup>*Ibid.*, August 17, 1876.  
<sup>73</sup>*Ibid.*, June 30, 1880.  
<sup>74</sup>*Ibid.*, February 13, 1877.  
<sup>75</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. C, Book 3 (Mss. in Travis County Clerk's Office, Austin).  
<sup>76</sup>Austin City Directory, 1879-1880 (Austin: E. W. Swindells, 1880), 19.  
<sup>77</sup>*Ibid.*, 16.  
<sup>78</sup>American Statesman (Austin), March 26, 1939.  
<sup>79</sup>Barkley, One Hundred Years.  
<sup>80</sup>Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 1.  
<sup>81</sup>*Ibid.*, 2.  
<sup>82</sup>Austin Statesman, July 23, 1882.  
<sup>83</sup>Austin Democratic Statesman, November 28, 1884.  
<sup>84</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), July 2, 1886.  
<sup>85</sup>Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 2.  
<sup>86</sup>Austin Record, August 6, 1887.  
<sup>87</sup>Carruth, "73 Vital Years," 2.  
<sup>88</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), August 10, 1889.  
<sup>89</sup>*Ibid.*, July 16, 1890.  
<sup>90</sup>*Ibid.*, August 30, 1891.  
<sup>91</sup>Austin Evening News, October 16, 1893.  
<sup>92</sup>*Ibid.*, August 4, 1893.  
<sup>93</sup>*Ibid.*, March 13, 1894.  
<sup>94</sup>Austin Statesman, January 28, 1896.  
<sup>95</sup>*Ibid.*, September 18, 1898.  
<sup>96</sup>Austin Tribune, October 22, 1898.  
<sup>97</sup>*Ibid.*, April 17, 1899.  
<sup>98</sup>*Ibid.*, August 14, 1899.  
<sup>99</sup>*Ibid.*, July 15, 1899.

## CHAPTER X

- <sup>1</sup>Oliver C. Hartley, A Digest of the Laws of Texas (Philadelphia: Thomas: Cowperthwait and Company, 1850), 37.  
<sup>2</sup>Laws of the Republic of Texas, Passed at the First Session of the Third Congress (Houston: Telegraph Power Press, 1839), 36-40.  
<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, 120.  
<sup>4</sup>Texas Sentinel (Austin), November 21, 1857.  
<sup>5</sup>George W. Paschal, A Digest of the Laws of Texas: Containing Laws in Force, and the Repealed Laws (2nd ed.; Washington, D. C.: W. H. & O. H. Morrison, 1870), 581-583.  
<sup>6</sup>J. J. Lane, History of the University of Texas (Austin: Henry Hutchings, 1891), 40.  
<sup>7</sup>Paschal, Digest of the Laws of Texas, 945.  
<sup>8</sup>Lane, History of the University of Texas, 44.  
<sup>9</sup>Dallas Weekly Herald, June 23, 1881.  
<sup>10</sup>George P. Garrison, "The First Twenty-Five Years of the University of Texas," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, LX, No. 1 (July, 1956), 106.  
<sup>11</sup>W. J. Battle, "A Concise History of the University of Texas, 1883-1850, Southwestern Historical Quarterly, LIV, No. 4 (April, 1951), 411.  
<sup>12</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), May 10, 1887.  
<sup>13</sup>*Ibid.*, February 1, 1888.  
<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*, October 8, 1888.  
<sup>15</sup>*Ibid.*, November 21, 1889.  
<sup>16</sup>Catalogue, University of Texas, 1889-1890 (Austin: University of Texas, 1890).  
<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*  
<sup>18</sup>*Ibid.*  
<sup>19</sup>H. Y. Benedict (comp), A Source Book Relating to the History of the University of Texas: Legislative, Legal, Bibliographical and Statistical (Austin: University of Texas, 1917), 421.  
<sup>20</sup>*Ibid.*



- <sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*  
<sup>22</sup>Austin Statesman, May 25, 1891.  
<sup>23</sup>*Ibid.*, January 18, 1892.  
<sup>24</sup>Austin Evening News, November 9, 1893.  
<sup>25</sup>*Ibid.*, February 24, 1894.  
<sup>26</sup>American-Statesman (Austin), April 7, 1895.  
<sup>27</sup>*Ibid.*, July 9, 1895.  
<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*, Centennial Edition, March 26, 1939.  
<sup>29</sup>Austin Statesman, June 20, 1896.  
<sup>30</sup>*Ibid.*, January 3, 1897.  
<sup>31</sup>*Ibid.*, February 23, 1897; Harry Ransom, "A Renaissance Gentleman in Texas: Notes on the Life and Library of Swante Palm," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, LIII, No. 3 (January, 1950), 225.  
<sup>32</sup>Austin Statesman, April 17, 1890.  
<sup>33</sup>*Ibid.*, September 21, 1898.  
<sup>34</sup>*Ibid.*, October 25, 1898.  
<sup>35</sup>*Ibid.*, April 2, 1899.  
<sup>36</sup>Austin Daily Tribune, April 12, 1899.  
<sup>37</sup>*Ibid.*, October 31, 1899.  
<sup>38</sup>*Ibid.*, November 25, 1899.  
<sup>39</sup>Austin Statesman, March 21, 1899.  
<sup>40</sup>The Calendar (University of Texas), April 4, 1899.  
<sup>41</sup>*Ibid.*, May 12, 1899.  
<sup>42</sup>Austin Daily Tribune, April 12, 1899.  
<sup>43</sup>The Calendar (University of Texas), April 28, 1899.  
<sup>44</sup>*Ibid.*, June 6, 1899.  
<sup>45</sup>*Ibid.*, October 4, 1899.  
<sup>46</sup>*Ibid.*, November 10, 1899.  
<sup>47</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 47.

## CHAPTER XI

<sup>1</sup>Report of the Capitol Building Commissioners to the Governor of Texas, January 1, 1883 (Austin: E. W. Swindells, 1883), 3.

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, 13.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, 3.

<sup>4</sup>Austin Statesman, December 20, 1882.

<sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*, February 24, 1884.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid.*, February 2, 1882.

<sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*; Austin Daily Statesman, March 4, 1885.

<sup>8</sup>*Ibid.*, January 31, 1886.

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid.*, July 23, 1886.

<sup>10</sup>*Ibid.*, January 8, 1886.

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid.*, May 21, 1886.

<sup>12</sup>*Ibid.*, November 6, 1886.

<sup>13</sup>*Ibid.*, February 26, 1888.

<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*, April 19, 21, 1888.

<sup>15</sup>*Ibid.*, February 28, 1888.

<sup>16</sup>*Ibid.*, April 18, 1888.

<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, March 11, 1888.

<sup>18</sup>*Ibid.*,

<sup>19</sup>*Ibid.*, March 15, 1888.

<sup>20</sup>*Ibid.*, April 17, 1888.

<sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>22</sup>*Ibid.*, May 16, 1888.

<sup>23</sup>Unless otherwise noted, references for the newspapers are from Historical Records Survey Program, Works Progress Administration, *Texas Newspapers, 1813-1939: A Union List of Newspaper Files Available in Offices of Publishers, Libraries, and a Number of Private Collections* (Houston: San Jacinto Museum of History, 1941), 9-18; and Thomas W. Streeter, *Bibliography of Texas, 1795-1845* (5 vols.; Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1955-1960), Part 1, vol. 2, 506-550.

<sup>24</sup>American-Statesman (Austin), March 26, 1939.

<sup>25</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 760.

<sup>26</sup>Democratic Statesman (Austin), August 1, 1871.

<sup>27</sup>*American-Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939.

<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>29</sup>From a newspaper clipping in Austin and Travis County Collection, Austin Public Library.

<sup>30</sup>*Austin Statesman*, February 21, 1886.

<sup>31</sup>*Ibid.*, April 2, 1886.

<sup>32</sup>*Ibid.*, May 9, 1886.

<sup>33</sup>*Ibid.*, September 16, 1890.

<sup>34</sup>*Ibid.*, July 29, 1891.

<sup>35</sup>*Ibid.*, August 4, 1891.

<sup>36</sup>*Ibid.*, March 22, 1894.

## CHAPTER XII

<sup>1</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 428.

<sup>2</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. A; Vol. B, Books 1-4; Vol. C, Book 1.

<sup>3</sup>William G. Thomas (comp.), *Digest of General Ordinances of the City of Austin (to July 15, 1874)* (Austin: Cardwell & Walker, Printers, 1874).

<sup>4</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, March 24, 1841.

<sup>5</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, III, 582.

<sup>6</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), October 7, 1846.

<sup>7</sup>*Ibid.*, January 20, 1847.

<sup>8</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. A.

<sup>9</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 1124-25.

<sup>10</sup>Harney had known service under Andrew Jackson in Indian battles in Florida (where Harney Lake is named for him), under Lieutenant Jeff Davis in Sioux battles, in the Black Hills (where Harney Peak and Harney Forest are named for him, and under Captain Abe Lincoln in the Black Hawk War. Harney was part of Austin's history; was a prisoner of the Confederates in the Civil War; and on May 7, 1870, sold his tract of land to C. W. Whitis for \$9,000.

<sup>11</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XVIII, 55.

<sup>12</sup>*Southern Intelligencer* (Austin), October 13, 1858.

<sup>13</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), May 10, 1877.

<sup>14</sup>*Austin Democratic Statesman*, March 13, 1884.

<sup>15</sup>*Ibid.*; *San Antonio Express*, September 6, 1931.

<sup>16</sup>*State Gazette* (Austin), November 20, 1839.

<sup>17</sup>E. H. Loughery, *History of the Fire Department, Austin* (Austin: Eugene von Boeckmann Publishing Company, 1898), 2; J. A. Longbridge, *History of Austin Volunteer Fire Department* [n.d., n.p.].

<sup>18</sup>*Austin City Gazette*, November 3, 1881.

<sup>19</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), March 20, 1847.

<sup>20</sup>Loughery, *History of the Fire Department, Austin*, 20.

<sup>21</sup>Interview with Eugene Robinson, February 16, 1945.

<sup>22</sup>Loughery, *History of the Fire Department, Austin*, 3-4.

<sup>23</sup>*Ibid.*, 27.

<sup>24</sup>*Austin Statesman*, February 21, 1886.

<sup>25</sup>*Austin Tribune*, July 2, 1899.

<sup>26</sup>*Austin Daily Statesman*, October 1, 1899.

<sup>27</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. A.

<sup>28</sup>Thomas (comp.), *Digest of General Ordinances of the City of Austin*.

<sup>29</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXX, 35.

<sup>30</sup>*Austin Daily Statesman*, October 26, 1883.

<sup>31</sup>*Ibid.*, September 21, 1877.

<sup>32</sup>*Ibid.*, July 2, 1895.

<sup>33</sup>*Southern Intelligencer* (Austin), May 8, 1861.

<sup>34</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXX, 44.

<sup>35</sup>*Austin Statesman*, February 9, 1886.

<sup>36</sup>*Ibid.*, April 9, 1886.

<sup>37</sup>*Ibid.*, October 31, 1886.

<sup>38</sup>*Austin Tribune*, September 8, 1899.

<sup>39</sup>Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, I, 1506.

<sup>40</sup>*Ibid.*, II, 408.

<sup>41</sup>Kennedy, *Texas*, II, 732.

- <sup>42</sup>Texas Democrat (Austin), August 16, 1848.
- <sup>43</sup>Southern Intelligencer (Austin), April 15, 1857.
- <sup>44</sup>Austin Democratic Statesman, August 23, 1884.
- <sup>45</sup>Austin Statesman, April 1, 1886.
- <sup>46</sup>Ibid., February 9, 1886.
- <sup>47</sup>Austin Tribune, October 1, 1899.

#### CHAPTER XIII

- <sup>1</sup>State Gazette (Austin), August 9, 1856.
- <sup>2</sup>Brown, Annals of Travis County, XXXI, 27.
- <sup>3</sup>Texas State Gazette (Austin), September 20, 1851.
- <sup>4</sup>Brown, Annals of Travis County, XVI, 53.
- <sup>5</sup>Texas State Times (Austin), September 27, 1856; Texas State Gazette (Austin), October 1, 1856.
- <sup>6</sup>Texas State Times (Austin), June 14, 1856.
- <sup>7</sup>Austin American, April 25, 1915.
- <sup>8</sup>Texas State Gazette (Austin), September 22, 1860.
- <sup>9</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), March 30; May 24, 1879.
- <sup>10</sup>Ibid., July 4, 1877.
- <sup>11</sup>Tenth Census of the United States, 1880 (microfilm, Returns of Travis County), 87.
- <sup>12</sup>Austin Daily Statesman, July 21, 1883.
- <sup>13</sup>Ibid., July 22, 1883.
- <sup>14</sup>Austin Tribune, July 2, 1899.
- <sup>15</sup>Austin Statesman, August 29, 1886.
- <sup>16</sup>Ibid., December 17, 1886.
- <sup>17</sup>Austin Evening News, September 14, 1893; September 28, 1893.
- <sup>18</sup>Austin Statesman, March 26, 1893.
- <sup>19</sup>Ibid., November 22, 1895.
- <sup>20</sup>Mary Starr Barkley, "Unique Cattle Brands," The Cattleman, XXXV, No. 5 (October, 1948), 36, 38.
- <sup>21</sup>Austin Statesman, January 8, 1884.
- <sup>22</sup>Ibid., March 25, 1884.
- <sup>23</sup>Ibid., December 19, 1886.
- <sup>24</sup>Brown, Annals of Travis County, IV, 6.
- <sup>25</sup>Interview with Mrs. Felicia Purnell and Bill Phillips, April 15, 1952.
- <sup>26</sup>Kennedy, Texas, II, 917.
- <sup>27</sup>Ibid., 926.
- <sup>28</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. A, p. 1.
- <sup>29</sup>Ibid., 5.
- <sup>30</sup>Ibid., 6.
- <sup>31</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>32</sup>Ibid., 10.
- <sup>33</sup>Ibid., 15.
- <sup>34</sup>Ibid., 23.
- <sup>35</sup>Ibid., 27.
- <sup>36</sup>Ibid., 50.
- <sup>37</sup>Ibid., 51.
- <sup>38</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>39</sup>Ibid., 112.
- <sup>40</sup>Ibid., Vol. B, Book 1, 8-9.
- <sup>41</sup>Ibid., 1-2.
- <sup>42</sup>Ibid., 15.
- <sup>43</sup>Ibid., 16.
- <sup>44</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>45</sup>J. W. Williams, "The National Road of the Republic of Texas," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, XLVII, No. 3 (January, 1944), 207-224.
- <sup>46</sup>Austin Statesman, October 3, 1886.
- <sup>47</sup>Texas Democrat (Austin), March 11, 1846; Austin Statesman, January 24, 1893; Austin Tribune, November 23, 1899.
- <sup>48</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. A, p. 16.
- <sup>49</sup>Ibid., 18.
- <sup>50</sup>American Statesman (Austin) Magazine, October 11, 1925.
- <sup>51</sup>Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners Court, Vol. A, p. 30.



<sup>52</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), April 2, 1879.

<sup>53</sup>Austin Daily Statesman, January 27, 1884.

<sup>54</sup>Austin Statesman, June 19, 1886.

<sup>55</sup>Ibid., February 21, 1888.

<sup>56</sup>Ibid., May 27, 1888.

<sup>57</sup>Hogan, *The Texas Republic*, 57-60.

<sup>58</sup>Texas Democrat (Austin), March 6, 1847.

<sup>59</sup>Houston Chronicle, November 26, 1961.

<sup>60</sup>Austin Daily Statesman, March 5, 1875.

<sup>62</sup>Austin Statesman, February 21, 1888.

<sup>61</sup>Ibid., January 24, 1877.

<sup>63</sup>Ibid., September 13, 1874.

#### CHAPTER XIV

<sup>1</sup>Hogan, *The Texas Republic*, 194.

<sup>2</sup>Tenth Census of the United States, 1860 (microfilm, Returns of Travis County); Gray, "Outline History of Austin," *Austin City Directory*, 1872-73, 5-16.

<sup>4</sup>Hogan, *The Texas Republic*, 39.

<sup>5</sup>Mrs. V. L. Brooks, *History of the First Baptist Church, Austin, Texas* (Austin [n.p.], 1923), 6.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., 9.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., 15.

<sup>8</sup>Ibid.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., 6.

<sup>10</sup>From research done by Mary Starr Barkley, author of *One Hundred Years*, a booklet written for the centennial celebration of St. Mary's Cathedral, 1852-1952 (Austin: Best Printing Co., 1952).

<sup>11</sup>John Barclay, *The First One Hundred Years of the Central Christian Church in Austin, Texas* (Austin [n.p.] 1947), 6.

<sup>12</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, I, 345.

<sup>13</sup>*Austin American*, June 28, 1963.

<sup>14</sup>Dubose Murphy, *A Short History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Texas* (Dallas: Turner Company, 1935), 27; Works Progress Administration, *Through the Years* (Austin: Betty Gilmer Chapter of St. David's Guild, 1942).

<sup>15</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, III, 512-513.

<sup>16</sup>Rabbi and Mrs. Bertram Klausner (comps.), *The History of Temple Beth Israel, 1876-1957* (Austin: Temple Beth Israel Brotherhood, 1957). Booklet courtesy of Mrs. Ralph Hanna, Austin.

<sup>17</sup>Interview with Jim Novy, Austin, October 14, 1963.

<sup>18</sup>*American Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939; December 7, 1958.

<sup>19</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXV, 45.

<sup>20</sup>*Austin Daily Statesman*, March 4, 1883.

<sup>21</sup>Macum Phelan, *A History of Early Methodism in Texas, 1817-1866* (Nashville: Cokesbury Press, 1924), 127.

<sup>22</sup>Ibid., 153.

<sup>23</sup>Ibid., 206.

<sup>24</sup>*City Gazette* (Austin), January 12, 1842.

<sup>25</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XII, 19.

<sup>26</sup>*American Statesman* (Austin), March 26, 1939.

<sup>27</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, XXIX, 37.

<sup>28</sup>Carl A. Swanson (trans.), *Suvenir Svenska Metodist-episkopalforsamlingers i Austen Texas, Femtio-Ars Fast* (Austin: Texas Posten Publishing Company, 1923).

<sup>29</sup>Adrian W. Coleman, *Upon This Rock: A History of the Walnut Creek Baptist Church* (Austin, 1952). Booklet courtesy of Mrs. James D. Gault, Sr., Austin.

<sup>30</sup>William S. Redd (ed.), "Allen's Reminiscences of Texas, 1838-1842," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XVII, No. 3 (January, 1914), 285; William S. Redd, *A History of the Presbyterian Church in Texas* (Austin: Steck Company, 1936), 95.

<sup>31</sup>*Texas Democrat* (Austin), October 25, 1848.

<sup>32</sup>*Daily Democratic Statesman* (Austin), October 2, 1875.

## CHAPTER XV

- <sup>1</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, I, 225.
- <sup>2</sup>Basic Data About Austin and Travis County (Austin: City of Austin Department of Planning, May, 1963).
- <sup>3</sup>State Gazette (Austin), October 12, 1859.
- <sup>4</sup>Austin Daily Republican, June 28, 1869.
- <sup>5</sup>Austin Statesman, April 4, 1886.
- <sup>6</sup>Ibid., May 18, 1886.
- <sup>7</sup>Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup>Ibid., February 17, 1887.
- <sup>9</sup>Ibid., April 9, 1894.
- <sup>10</sup>Harper's Bazaar XXXIII, No. 30 (September 29, 1900), 1380-1387.
- <sup>11</sup>Austin Daily Tribune, November 29, 1899.
- <sup>12</sup>Mary Starr Barkley, "House of History," Houston Chronicle Sunday Magazine, May 6, 1956.
- <sup>13</sup>Daily State Journal (Austin), December 2, 1873.
- <sup>14</sup>From a Penn booklet in Barker History Center Library, University of Texas.
- <sup>15</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), December 19, 1874.
- <sup>16</sup>Austin Evening News, October 16, 1893.
- <sup>17</sup>George Finlay Simmons, *Birds of the Austin Region* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1925), viii.
- <sup>18</sup>Ibid., 111.
- <sup>19</sup>Austin Statesman, February 26, 1886.
- <sup>20</sup>Ibid., May 9, 1886.
- <sup>21</sup>Ibid., September 2, 1886.
- <sup>22</sup>Austin Evening News, September 14, 1893.
- <sup>23</sup>Austin Statesman, February 10, 1888.
- <sup>24</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, I, 87.
- <sup>25</sup>Brown, *Annals of Travis County*, VI, 77.
- <sup>26</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, II, 797.
- <sup>27</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, III, 193-194.
- <sup>28</sup>Walter P. Webb, *The Texas Rangers: A Century of Frontier Defense* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1935), 46.
- <sup>29</sup>Gulick (ed.), *Lamar Papers*, III, 568.
- <sup>30</sup>Austin City Gazette, December 23, 1849.
- <sup>31</sup>Texas Democrat (Austin), August 19, 1846.
- <sup>32</sup>Texas State Times (Austin), October 21, 1854.
- <sup>33</sup>Austin Daily Republican, July 1, 1869; July 18, 1869; October 15, 1869.
- <sup>34</sup>Ibid., January 19, 1870.
- <sup>35</sup>Daily State Journal (Austin), December 29, 1873.
- <sup>36</sup>Austin Democratic Statesman, June 11, 1887.
- <sup>37</sup>Ibid., June 24, 1888.
- <sup>38</sup>Ibid., July 5, 1889.
- <sup>39</sup>Ibid., September 5, 1889.
- <sup>40</sup>Ibid., February 25, 1896.
- <sup>41</sup>Austin Statesman, March 26, 1839.
- <sup>42</sup>Austin City Gazette, January 31, 1852.
- <sup>43</sup>Southern Intelligencer (Austin), June 28, 1866.
- <sup>44</sup>Ibid., January 24, 1867.
- <sup>45</sup>State Gazette (Austin), December 18, 1868.
- <sup>46</sup>Austin Daily Republican, June 28, 1869.
- <sup>47</sup>Ibid., January 22, 1870.
- <sup>48</sup>Ibid., December 8, 1870.
- <sup>49</sup>State Journal (Austin), June 16, 1870.
- <sup>50</sup>Daily State Journal (Austin), September 21, 1871.
- <sup>51</sup>Tri-Weekly Statesman (Austin), December 10, 1872.
- <sup>52</sup>Ibid., December 28, 1872.
- <sup>53</sup>Daily Democratic Statesman (Austin), May 18, 1875.
- <sup>54</sup>Annual Catalog (Austin: Austin Collegiate Female Institute, 1875).
- <sup>55</sup>Webb and Carroll (eds.), *Handbook of Texas*, I, 217.
- <sup>56</sup>Gossip Magazine (Austin), March 10, 1940.
- <sup>57</sup>Austin American, June 10, 1926.

<sup>58</sup>Programme of Fair, 1880 (Barker History Center Library, University of Texas.

<sup>59</sup>Austin Democratic Statesman, July 27, 1881.

<sup>60</sup>Ibid., March 26, 1881.

<sup>61</sup>Texas Siftings (Austin), June 28, 1881.

<sup>62</sup>Austin Democratic Statesman, February 16, 1882.

<sup>63</sup>Texas Siftings (Austin), February 11, 1882.

<sup>64</sup>Austin Daily Statesman, February 6, 1883.

<sup>65</sup>Ibid., October 11, 1883.

<sup>66</sup>Ibid.

<sup>67</sup>Ibid., December 12, 1883.

<sup>68</sup>Austin Democratic Statesman, February 16, 1884.

<sup>69</sup>Ibid., October 5, 1884.

<sup>70</sup>Ibid., June 14, 1884.

<sup>71</sup>Ibid., May 11, 1884.

<sup>72</sup>Ibid., June 14, 1884.

<sup>73</sup>Ibid., October 14, 1884.

<sup>74</sup>Ibid., September 2, 1885.

<sup>75</sup>Ibid., January 1, 1887.

<sup>76</sup>Ibid., January 14, 1887.

<sup>77</sup>Ibid., May 27, 1888.

<sup>78</sup>Ibid., September 29, October 15, 1889.

<sup>79</sup>Ibid., February 4, 1891.

<sup>80</sup>Ibid., May 24, 1891.

<sup>81</sup>Ibid., July 13, 1892.

<sup>82</sup>Ibid., May 9, 1892.

<sup>83</sup>Ibid., June 24, 1893.

<sup>84</sup>Ibid., June 28, 1893.

<sup>85</sup>Ibid., June 8, 1893.

<sup>86</sup>Ibid., April 16, 1893.

<sup>87</sup>Will L. Vining, Austin Business League Booklet (Austin: Board of Trade, 1908).

<sup>88</sup>Austin Statesman, March 8, 1893.

<sup>89</sup>Ibid., May 3, 1893.

<sup>90</sup>Caruth, "73 Vital Years," 18.

<sup>91</sup>Austin Statesman, March 2, 1894.

<sup>92</sup>Ibid., June 17, 1894.

<sup>93</sup>Ibid., July 17, 1894.

<sup>94</sup>Ibid., January 30, 1895.

<sup>95</sup>Austin Evening News, April 20, 1894.

<sup>96</sup>Leslie's Illustrated Weekly (New York), November 21, 1895.

<sup>97</sup>Austin Statesman, November 6, 1895.

<sup>98</sup>Ibid., September 19, 1896.

<sup>99</sup>Ibid., September 27, 1896.

<sup>100</sup>Ibid., October 15, 1898.

<sup>101</sup>Austin Tribune, July 11, 1898.

<sup>102</sup>Austin Statesman, July 25, 1898.

<sup>103</sup>Austin Tribune, July 15, 1899.

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NOTE—Names of Policemen and Mounties shown in illustration: front row, left to right, Arthur Moore, W. F. Rutledge, Lewis Mayfield, James P. Starr, N. O. Ogletree, Richard (Dick) Riley, Amos Maupin; second row, left to right, A. Y. McWright, Sam D. Griffin, C. N. Bustin, J. T. Laughlin (chief of police), Jas. P. Hart (commissioner of police), J. D. Platt, Col. M. Brown, Billy Russell; third row, left to right, R. E. Nitschke, Ed Allen, James C. "Doc" White, Frank R. Tannehill, Hawk Stacey, Wylie Brook, J. D. Copeland.



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